



THE PARISH OF SAINT RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

JULY 16, 2023

Welcome!

CLERGY TEAM

Fr. Robert J. Grecco
Pastor
rgrecco@straphaelcgs.org

Fr. Daniel J. Maurer
Senior Parochial Vicar
dmaurer@diopitt.org

In Residence
Fr. James McDonough
Fr. Jerome Etenduk
Fr. Robin Evanish

Deacons
Dcn. Kevin Lander
Dcn. Paul Lim
Dcn. Jim Mackin

TEMPORARY MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY: 4:00 p.m. at SSJ
4:30 p.m. at SMOS

SUNDAY: 8:00 a.m. at SMOS
9:00 a.m. at SSJ
10:00 a.m. at SMOS
11:00 a.m. at SSJ

MONDAY: 8:30 a.m. at SSJ
12:00 p.m. at SMOS

TUESDAY: 8:30 a.m. at SMOS
12:00 p.m. at SSJ

WEDNESDAY: 8:30 a.m. at SSJ
12:00 p.m. at SMOS

THURSDAY: 8:30 a.m. at SSJ
12:00 p.m. at SMOS

FRIDAY: 8:30 a.m. at SMOS
12:00 p.m. at SSJ

*This schedule does not
reflect holidays or Holy Days.*



15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"The seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word
and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a
hundred or sixty or thirtyfold." - Mt 13:23

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

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PARISH ADMINISTRATION CENTER

330 3rd Avenue, Carnegie, PA 15106

412-857-5356 | WWW.STRAPHAELCGS.ORG

For church locations and staff information, see page 20

PRAYER & WORSHIP

SACRAMENTS



BAPTISM:

For arrangements call
the parish office: 412-857-5356



ANOIDTING OF THE SICK:

Call the parish office for
arrangements if in danger of death.
If hospitalized or in a skilled nursing
facility, please ask the nursing staff
to contact the Catholic priest on call
for that facility.



MARRIAGE:

Arrangements must be made with
one of the priests at least six months
before the proposed date
of the wedding.



PENANCE:

Saturdays

- ♦ 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
at St. Margaret of Scotland Church

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

JULY 16		FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
*4:00 p.m.	SSJ	All living and deceased parish festival volunteers
*4:30 p.m.	SMOS	40 th Anniversary of the ordination of Fr. Robin Evanish by the Stein and Schwarzmeier families
8:00 a.m.	SMOS	Jeremiah Sullivan by children and grandchildren
9:00 a.m.	SSJ	Christopher Kyle by Mom, Dad, and sister
10:00 a.m.	SMOS	People of the Parish
11:00 a.m.	SSJ	Bob Shalamon Sr., Al Barbish, and Bill Durso Sr. by Bob Shalamon
JULY 17		MONDAY OF THE 15TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME
8:30 a.m.	SSJ	Don May by the Palastro Family
12:00 p.m.	SMOS	Margaret Dellenbach by the Pritchard family
JULY 18		TUESDAY OF THE 15TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME
8:30 a.m.	SMOS	Ruth Hoerster by family
12:00 p.m.	SSJ	Frank Monteleone by Jim Miller and family
JULY 19		WEDNESDAY OF THE 15TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME
8:30 a.m.	SSJ	Charlie and Dan Goetz by Clare and family
12:00 p.m.	SMOS	In Thanksgiving for all generous Food Pantry Donors
JULY 20		THURSDAY OF THE 15TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME
8:30 a.m.	SSJ	Ann Cheplic by granddaughter, Terri
12:00 p.m.	SMOS	Teresa and Bruno Pelle and Francey, Julie and Mickey Pelle by Rosemarie Trombetta
JULY 21		FRIDAY OF THE 15TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME
8:30 a.m.	SMOS	Living members of the Roth and Salerno families by family
12:00 p.m.	SSJ	Grace and Fred Eckhardt by daughter, Marilyn Schwab
JULY 23		SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
*4:00 p.m.	SSJ	Diane Nungesser by Pat and Marty Barrett
*4:30 p.m.	SMOS	Carl Lupi Jr. by Sharon Harshman
8:00 a.m.	SMOS	Mary Katus and Regina Pencosky by Donna and William Pencosky
9:00 a.m.	SSJ	Patricia Smith by Marianne Erhart
10:00 a.m.	SMOS	Marguerite Oliver by sisters, Betty and Lorraine
11:00 a.m.	SSJ	People of the Parish

**anticipated Mass on Saturday evening*

Temporary Schedule

Due to a partial ceiling collapse, all Masses (and Mass Intentions) at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church have been moved to St. Margaret of Scotland EXCEPT the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sundays which will be held at Ss. Simon and Jude Church.

PARISH LIFE



FROM THE PASTOR

"Now, the more we desire to come near to God and live a virtuous life, the more we must expect combat; consequently, we need to gather more and more strength in order not to be vanquished. For all these struggles of the

Christian life, the Holy Eucharist will give the necessary strength. Without the Eucharist, prayer and piety soon languish. The religious life is nothing but a continual crucifixion of our nature and, of itself, holds no attraction for us. Without strong and gracious help, we do not willingly accept the Cross. Generally speaking, piety without Communion is dead."

—St. Peter Julian Eymard, the Apostle of the Eucharist

For the duration of the closure of St. Elizabeth Seton church, confessions will be available only at St. Margaret on Saturdays (11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.). Other times, as always, by appointment.

Scaffolding is built and diocesan officials, contractors, and engineers are reviewing the damage at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church. There is no further information to share at this time.

Grateful appreciation to all who were involved in the planning, set-up, and execution of the parish festival. There is no doubt that sacrifice of time and energy, beyond comprehension of most, makes the annual event the success that it is. A special shout out to those hardy souls who braved sun, heat, and rain to sit on the side of Greentree Road to sell raffle tickets!

"This Is My Body"

THE SHOCKING TRUTH

Jesus said, "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life." This teaching was so shocking that many of his followers left at that moment! Jesus did not call them back to clarify, because he knew they understood correctly. He was actually telling them to eat his flesh and drink his blood.

As Catholics, we believe Jesus' words literally, not symbolically. The substance of the bread and wine transform into the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ at every Mass. We call this miracle the Eucharist.



Scan to explore Church teaching on the Eucharist!

eucharisticrevival.org

Please pray for the souls of the faithful departed.

Sarah "Sally" Bayer
Albert Burlikowski
James McDonald
Andria Reynolds
Louise Testoni



Anthony Anderson	John Loniero
Emilia Bentley	Peter Paul Lyle III
June Bentley	Mary Ann Macino
Clara Bielecki	Arch MacLennan
Brian Bishop	Penny Mahoney
Kelly Bittner	Lucille Marabito
Jim Boerio	Laura Martin
Gina Burton	Sam Martin
Pete Caligiuri	Carl Masciola
Donald Campbell	Kathy Masko
Dorothy Campbell	Gina Massengill
Elisa Carsia	Kathy McGann
Helen Cassidy	Virginia Miller
Kenneth Chase	Joyce Mostowy
John Chraska	Robin Munko
Gina Dangelico	Pat Murdzak
Katie Denke	Theresa Nelson
Antoinette DePofi	Judi Novak
Patty Drury	Victoria O'Bosky
Kathi Dvorak	Mario Oliverio
Lena Enrietti	Joan Pandolph
Patti Eurich	Linda Perris
Stephanie Fahnestock	Charles Perry
Helen Fallon	Diane Perry
Vicky Feeney	Nancy Pistella
Lois Ferrie	Carol Poecking
Ron Ferrie	Robert Prevost
Rosemary Ferruzza	Diane Pritchard
Suzanne T. Finnegan	Dolores Quinn
Gabriel Fontana	Bob Recaldini
Michelle Frego	Dave Redman
May Frye	Paxton Renk
William Gabella	Florinda Rosemeyer
Dan Gardner	Helen Salamon
Jane Gardner	Andrew Patrick Schade
Edmund Gaskill	John Schenk
Mike Gieselman	Tyler Schepis
Joseph M. Granata	Mary Patricia Schnars
John Groll	Kathleen Shilling
Brandon Gross	Mary Socci
Mark Hagelauer	Genevieve Sonson
Margaret Harkins	Edie Sortwell
Eileen Henefeld	Teresa Stacy
Mary V. Hester	Jaime St. Ledger
Patti Howcroft	Judye Suhy
Brent Jones	Bob Super
Noreen Joslyn	Ed Super
Anna Mary Karpinski	Ed Sutilla
William Karpinski	Rose Talmonti
Joanne Keating	Tim Teeters
Gregory M. Klemmer	Jerry Tokar
Gloria Krally	Rosemarie Toth
Lori Krally	Allen Turske
Ann Kramer	Stephanie Vail
Veronica Kujawski	Penny Verow
Darlene Kura	Mary Kay Walsh
Helen Kurek	James Walther
Jackie Kushner	Linda Wesley
Mark Laird	Kathy Zajicek
John Linn	Bernice Zyzak
Eugene Loniero	

and all who are sick and in need of our prayers.



At Ss. Simon and Jude Church
in memory of
Pat Straughn,
Herm Herleman
and Larry Wiseman
by Bob Shalamon

STEWARDSHIP

Offertory

Required Weekly	\$30,000
6/28/2023 thru 7/4/2023	\$23,055

2023 Parish Appeal

2023 Goal	\$278,967
Monthly Due to the Diocese	\$23,247
6/28/2023 thru 7/4/2023	\$4,205
Received to date	\$345,224
Goal excess	\$66,257

View the quarterly report on page 18.

If you would like to contribute to the parish, consider using our online giving tool. You can set up recurrent payments, or make a one-time gift!



Scan the code to get started now.
OR visit our website:
straphaelcgs.org
and click the online giving tab at the top of the homepage.

The churches are listed alphabetically in this bulletin and online.

Unless otherwise noted, the bulletin deadline is **Monday at Noon**.
Email: mksmith@straphaelcgs.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

find more information where page number is listed

ROSARY AGAINST VIOLENCE

Pray with us every Wednesday after the Noon Mass.

RAPHAEL'S RAMBLERS

PAGE 10 • We're back! Come and walk with us!

PARISH NOVENA

The Feast of Ss. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael is September 29. We will celebrate our Patron Saint at every Mass on September 30/October 1. Leading up to this celebration, we will pray a weekly Novena to St. Raphael. Keep watching the bulletin for details.

MEDJUGORJE PRAYER GROUP

Join the Medjugorje Prayer Group at 12:40 p.m. at Ss. Simon and Jude Church on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month.

MARK YOUR MONDAYS

Coming this Fall, join Fr. Grecco and Sharon Smoller for *Presence—The Mystery of the Eucharist*. These Monday evening adult faith formation sessions will run from September 11 through October 9. More information will be in next week's bulletin.

BAPTISM CLASS

For those preparing to have their child baptized, a Baptism Preparation Class is held monthly. The next class is scheduled in the St. Maximilian Kolbe Room at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church on Thursday, July 20 at 6:00 p.m. Couples are encouraged to take the class before their child is born. To register to attend, please call Carol Kossler at the parish office at 412-857-5356.

Saturday Evening Mass Attendees: Come to the Festival after Mass this evening. Sit under the giant tent and enjoy a nice dinner, play games, enjoy some yummy treats, see the bargains at the indoor Flea Market and be sure to get your chances to win our fabulous prizes, including the Big Cash Raffle.



PARTNERS in Prayer

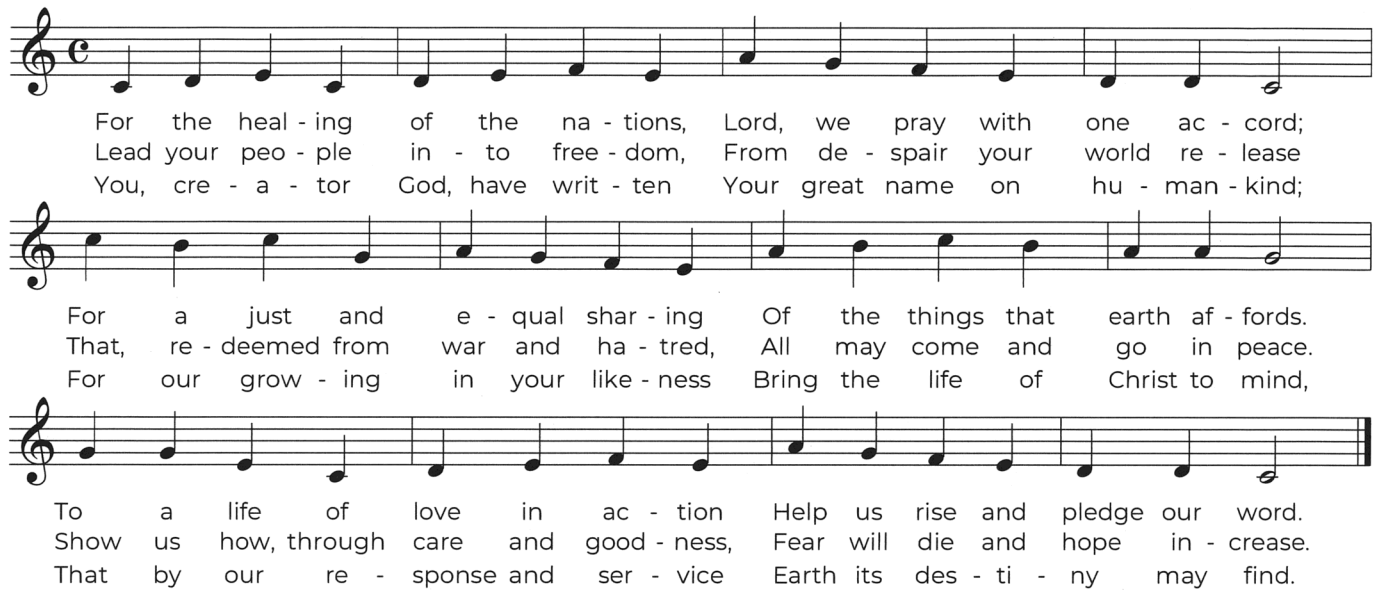
Beginning on July 20, and until repairs are completed at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, our Partners in Prayer will be meeting at 10:30 a.m. in the Cry Room at St. Margaret of Scotland Church. We will gather to pray and take prayer requests, attend Mass, then continuing gathering prayer requests and pray until 1:00 p.m. Please stop by to meet us, learn more about our ministry, pray with us, or give us an intention for which you need prayer. We meet on the first and third Thursday of every month.

Save the date!

Be sure to mark your calendar for our annual Parish Picnic to be held on Sunday, September 17, at Scott Park. It's always great food and great fun for the entire family! Details coming soon!

THE ORDER OF MASS

ENTRANCE HYMN | FOR THE HEALING OF THE NATIONS



For the heal - ing of the na - tions, Lord, we pray with one ac - cord;
Lead your peo - ple in - to free - dom, From de - spair your world re - lease
You, cre - a - tor God, have writ - ten Your great name on hu - man - kind;

For a just and e - qual shar - ing Of the things that earth af - fords.
That, re - deemed from war and ha - tred, All may come and go in peace.
For our grow - ing in your like - ness Bring the life of Christ to mind,

To a life of love in ac - tion Help us rise and pledge our word.
Show us how, through care and good - ness, Fear will die and hope in - crease.
That by our re - sponse and ser - vice Earth its des - ti - ny may find.

Tune: ST. THOMAS, 8 7 8 7 8 7; John Wade, 1711-1786

Text: Fred Kaan, b.1929-2009, alt., © 1968, Hope Publishing Company

PENITENTIAL ACT / KYRIE

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and what I have failed to do,
(all strike their breast as they say)
through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the angels and saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Cantor, then all repeat



Ky-ri-e, e-le - i - son. Chri - ste, e-le - i - son. Ky-ri-e, e-le - i - son.

GLORIA



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and on earth peace to peo-ple of good will. We praise you, we
bless you, we a - dore—you, we glo-ri-fy you, we give you thanks for your great glo - ry,
Lord God, heav'n-ly King, O God, al - might - y Fa - ther. Lord Je-sus Christ,
on - ly be-got - ten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa-ther, you take a-way the



FIRST READING | ISAIAH 55: 10-11

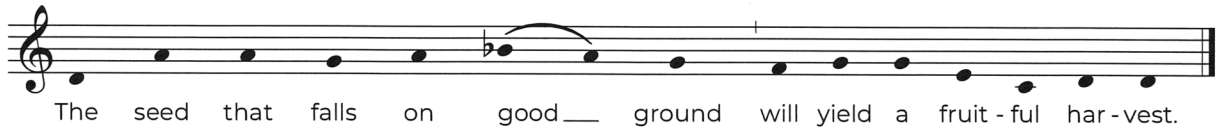
Thus says the LORD:

Just as from the heavens
the rain and snow come down
and do not return there
till they have watered the earth,
making it fertile and fruitful,
giving seed to the one who sows
and bread to the one who eats,

so shall my word be
that goes forth from my mouth;
my word shall not return to me void,
but shall do my will,
achieving the end for which I sent it.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 65: 10-14



You have visited the land and watered it; greatly have you enriched it. God's watercourses are filled; you have prepared the grain.

You have crowned the year with your bounty, and your paths overflow with a rich harvest; The untilled meadows overflow with it, and rejoicing clothes the hills.

Thus have you prepared the land: drenching its furrows, breaking up its clods, Softening it with showers, blessing its yield.

The fields are garmented with flocks and the valleys blanketed with grain. They shout and sing for joy.

SECOND READING | ROMANS 8: 18-23

Brothers and sisters:

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us. For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God; for creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption

and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the first-fruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower.
All who come to him will have life forever.

GOSPEL | MATTHEW 13:1-9 OR [13:1-23]

On that day, Jesus went out of the house and sat down by the sea. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat down, and the whole crowd stood along the shore. And he spoke to them at length in parables, saying:

"A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, where it had little soil. It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep, and when the sun rose it was scorched, and it withered for lack of roots. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold. Whoever has ears ought to hear."

[The disciples approached him and said, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" He said to them in reply, "Because knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven has been granted to you, but to them it has not been granted. To anyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. This is why I speak to them in parables, because *they look but do not see and hear but do not listen or understand*. Isaiah's prophecy is fulfilled in them, which says:

*You shall indeed hear but not understand,
you shall indeed look but never see.*

*Gross is the heart of this people,
they will hardly hear with their ears,*

*they have closed their eyes,
lest they see with their eyes
and hear with their ears
and understand with their hearts and be converted,
and I heal them.*

"But blessed are your eyes, because they see, and your ears, because they hear.

Amen, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.

"Hear then the parable of the sower.

The seed sown on the path is the one who hears the word of the kingdom without understanding it, and the evil one comes and steals away what was sown in his heart.

The seed sown on rocky ground is the one who hears the word and receives it at once with joy. But he has no root and lasts only for a time. When some tribulation or persecution comes because of the word, he immediately falls away.

The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word, but then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit.

But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,
(*bow at the following bolder words*)
**and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate
of the Virgin Mary, and became man.**

For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was
buried, and rose again on the third day in
accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at
the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father
and the Son, who with the Father and the
Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through
the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic, and
apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness
of sins and I look forward to the
resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERTORY HYMN | IN THIS PLACE YOUR WORD IS PLANTED



In this place your Word is plant - ed; on our path the seed is sown.
Let your plant - ing not be wast - ed, wilt - ed soon in ston - y field.
Help us treas - ure Ho - ly Wis - dom, Sa - vor ev - 'ry word you give.
Blest are they who, truth re - ceiv - ing, know its val - ue more than gold.



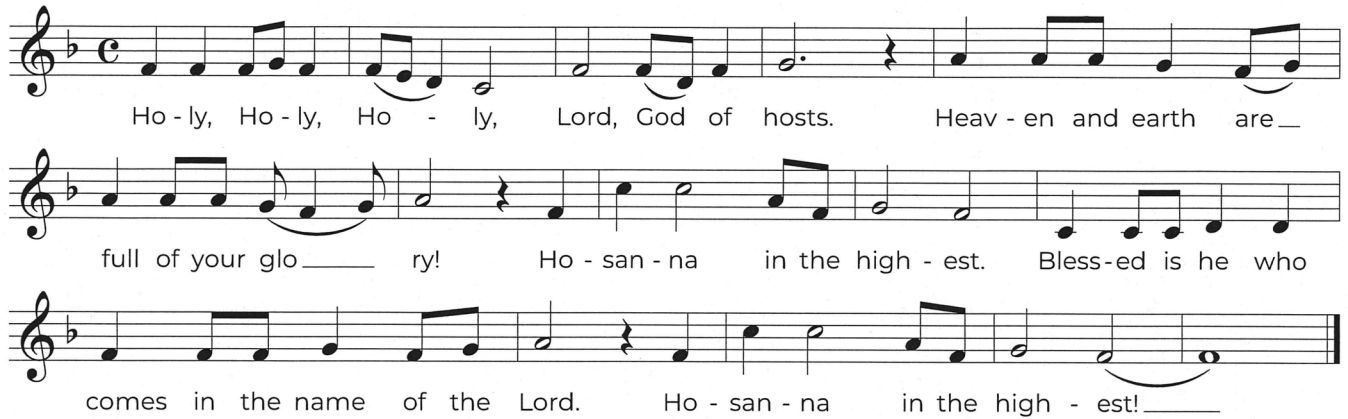
To the Church your Word is spo - ken; in our hearts a light has shone.
Let our world - ly cares not choke it, rob - bing you of right - ful yield.
Help us cher - ish Je - sus' Gos - pel, bread by which your peo - ple live.
Blest are they who, per - se - ver - ing, bear good fruit a hun - dred - fold!

Tune: STUTTGART; *Psalmody Sacra*, 1715

Text: Matthew 11:28-30; Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993 © 1991, GIA Publications, Inc.

THE ORDER OF MASS

SANCTUS / HOLY



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord, God of hosts. Heav - en and earth are
full of your glo - ry! Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est!

MYSTERY OF FAITH



When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we pro-claim your Death, O Lord, un-til you come a-gain.

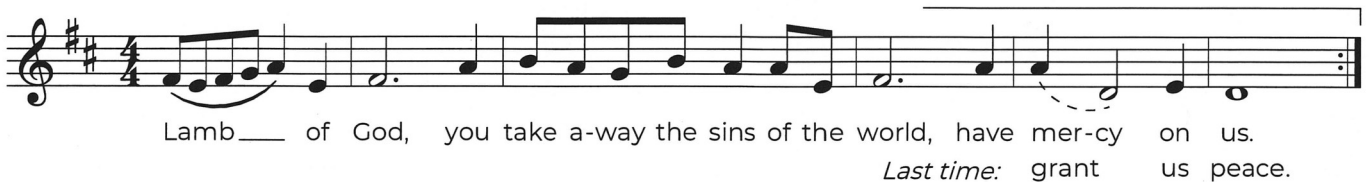
GREAT AMEN

Priest: Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, for ever and ever:



A - men, a - men, a - - - men!

AGNUS DEI / LAMB OF GOD

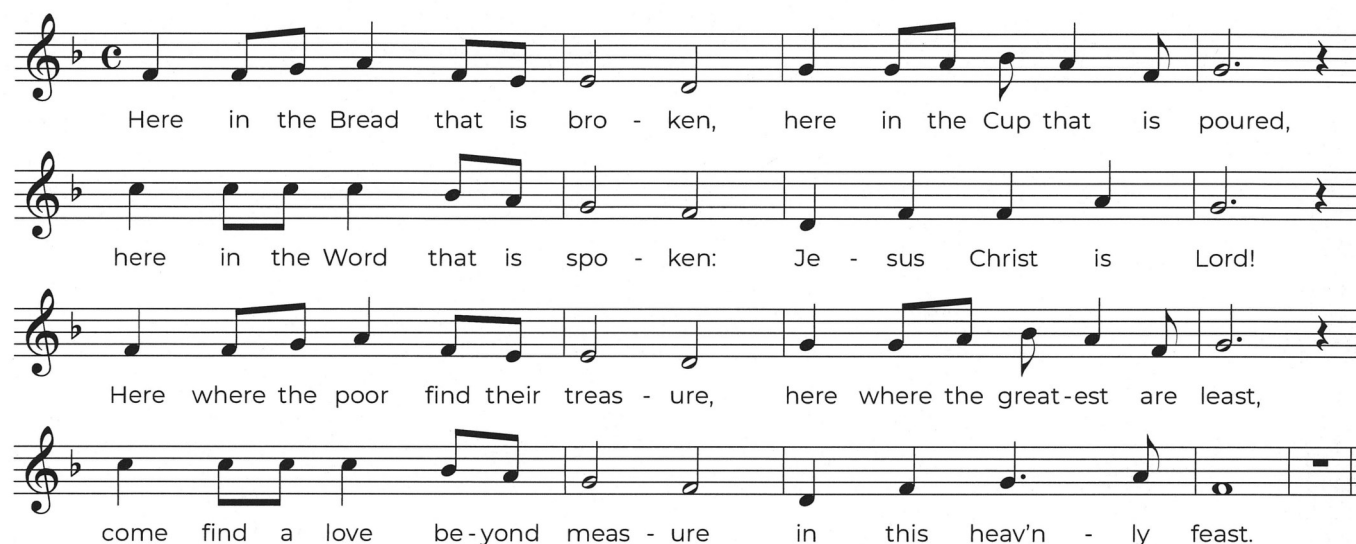


Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us.
Last time: grant us peace.

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THE ORDER OF MASS

COMMUNION HYMN | WHERE TWO OR THREE ARE GATHERED

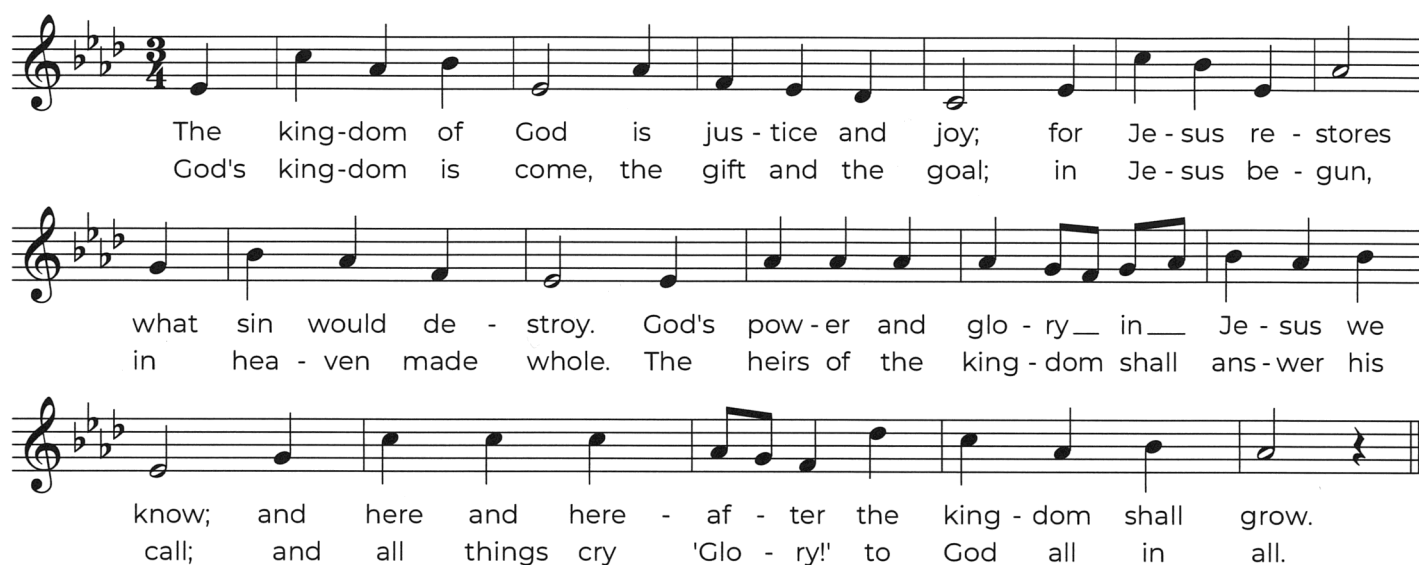


Here in the Bread that is bro - ken, here in the Cup that is poured,
here in the Word that is spo - ken: Je - sus Christ is Lord!
Here where the poor find their treas - ure, here where the great-est are least,
come find a love be-yond meas - ure in this heav'n - ly feast.

1. Where two or three are gathered, gathered in my name, I come with words of comfort to ease your hurt and shame.
2. Where two or three are gathered, I am there as well, inviting my disciples in perfect love to dwell.
3. Where two or three are gathered, I am there with you. I lead you into freedom, my path is safe and true.
4. Where two or three are gathered, gathered in my name, I wash your feet in service. Now you must do the same.
5. Where two or three are gathered, I am there as well. The blessings of the kingdom I send you forth to tell.
6. Where two or three are gathered, I am there with you. My gifts of peace and mercy will strengthen and renew.

Tune: Liam Lawton, b.1959; arr. by Paul A. Tate, b.1968 Text: Liam Lawton, b.1959, © 2009, Somerset Recordings and GIA Publications, Inc.

RECESSIONAL HYMN | THE KINGDOM OF GOD



The king-dom of God is jus - tice and joy; for Je - sus re - stores
God's king-dom is come, the gift and the goal; in Je - sus be - gun,
what sin would de - stroy. God's pow - er and glo - ry in Je - sus we
in hea - ven made whole. The heirs of the king - dom shall ans - wer his
know; and here and here - af - ter the king - dom shall grow.
call; and all things cry 'Glo - ry!' to God all in all.

Tune: : LAUDATE DOMINUM; Charles H. H. Parry, 1848-1918

Text: Bryn A. Rees, 1911-1983, © 1973, Alexander Scott

Caring Corner

by Laura O'Keeffe

CARING + GIVING + SERVING

They look but do not see and hear but do not listen or understand.

– Matthew 13: 13

In today's Gospel, the disciples ask Jesus why he speaks to the crowds in parables. Jesus explains that his disciples have faith which is necessary to comprehend "the secrets of the kingdom of heaven." We know from the scriptures that the apostles and those closest to Jesus followed him trustingly, called him "Rabbi" or "Teacher," and accepted him as the Messiah promised by the prophets. It might be hard to believe that most people who heard Jesus speak personally when he was on earth did not understand or accept his message.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* tells us that faith is a grace and "a free assent to the whole truth that God has revealed." (CCC, 150) A faithful person is obedient to God's will. Interestingly, the word "obey" comes from the Latin, "ob-audire" which means "to hear or listen to." (CCC, 144)

The gift of faith gave the apostles the insight to believe in Jesus as the Son of God. When they first encountered Jesus, however, they needed to pay attention to him, listen to his teachings, and decide to spend time with him. Attention, listening, and spending time are essential for getting to know anyone and growing in relationship. In our age of technology dependence and social media, which should perhaps be called, "ME-dia," we are at risk of losing the prerequisite skills for building relationships. As we increase screen time, take and post selfies, and pick and choose what we want to see and hear without trying to understand other viewpoints or disagree with civility, we compromise our ability to listen.

St. Teresa of Kolkata stated, "being with someone, listening without a clock and without anticipation of results, teaches us about love." According to Pope Francis, "listening is a dimension of love." Giving our attention, listening patiently and with an open heart, and sharing our time are foundational for growing in love of neighbor and God. By being attentive to the readings and homily at Mass, making time to pray every day, and reading the Bible, we open ourselves to God's grace. May we learn to listen that we may grow in love and prime our hearts and intellects to receive the gift of faith.

Raphael's Ramblers

After our break for the Fourth of July Holiday and Festival, we are ready to ramble again! We will gather this Tuesday, July 18 at 7:00 p.m. at Ss. Simon and Jude parking lot in front of the Marian shrine for our opening prayer, then walk for about 45 minutes. All are welcome! In case of inclement weather, we will cancel.

MILITARY PRAYER REMEMBRANCE

A1C Noel Blackhall, USAF
SSgt David Blackhall, USAF
SPC Casey Busch, Army
SSgt Kristiana Coote, USAF
LTC Ronald Gaudelli, Army
2LT Matthew Grebinoski, Army
A1C Sean Mahoney II, USAF
COL Christopher Marchetti, Army
SA2 Joshua May, Navy
1LT Matthew Montanaro, Army
SGT Alexander L. Novelli, Army
1stLt Anthony Palumbo, USMC
1stLt Anthony Redondo, USMC
Sgt Jordan M. Rush, USMC
A1C Elana Russell, USAF
SrA Jay Russell, USAF
TSgt Justin F. Smith, USAF
Cpl Nicholas Steinert, USMC
SGT Gregory Timmerman, Army
LT Sean Trombetta, Navy
1LT Garrett Walnoha, Army
SN Caleb Zajicek, Navy

BE IN THE KNOW

Keep up with the latest Parish news and get text messages and/or email reminders for upcoming events.



Text StRaphaelCGS to 84576

Learn more: flocknote.com

As always, we will never sell your information and you can cancel at any time.



Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

RCIA is the journey by which adults can join the Catholic Church. RCIA takes place within the context of the parish community, and after a suitable period of formation, culminates in the reception of the Sacraments of Initiation—Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation.

Formation is informal and introduces inquirers to several areas: Scripture: The stories of God's people; Teaching: What Catholics Believe; Prayer: How we communicate with God; Liturgy: How the community worships; Mission: How we live out what we believe. RCIA is also suitable for adults who were baptized Catholic but have not yet received the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. If you or someone you know is interested in finding out more about the Catholic Church, please contact Deacon Paul Lim at plim@diopitt.org or Sharon Smoller at ssmoller@straphaelcgs.org.

RCIC

Rite of Christian Initiation of Children

Do you have a child of school age (six years and older) who has not yet been baptized? Is your child approaching the age to receive First Reconciliation and Eucharist and has not yet been baptized? Is your child older than eight years (grade three or above) and has not received the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist? If so, please contact Sharon Smoller at ssmoller@straphaelcgs.org or 412-857-5356 x429.

FAITH FORMATION 2023 - 2024

Registration for children in grades K - 8 is now being accepted.



**Let the
children
come
to me.**

MATTHEW 19:14

Faith Formation is for any child who is not enrolled in a Catholic school. A child is to be enrolled in a faith formation program throughout these years to receive formal religious education and faith formation in preparation for reception of the sacraments.

Sessions held in the Parish Life Center (former school building at 1607 Greentree Road) on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m.

Families currently enrolled in Faith Formation should have received an email with the registration forms and tuition information. If you have not received an email or you are new to the program, please contact Sharon Smoller at ssmoller@straphaelcgs.org or 412-857-5356 ext. 429 to obtain more information.

Why We Need Faith Formation Teachers and aides.

Our Faith Formation program simply could not conduct the religious education and sacramental preparation programs without special individuals to serve as teachers. It is our goal to recruit teachers, substitutes, and aides to fulfill the needs of handing on our faith to the children enrolled in our program.

Are you a PARENT? Parents are the primary evangelists for their children. Serving as a teacher supports all parents' responsibilities for handing on the faith.

Are you SINGLE? What a wonderful way to develop unique relationships with young people.

Are you BUSY WORKING? The powerful witness of the priority you give your faith speaks volumes to the young people you would serve and to your own family.

Are you a GRANDPARENT? Stay connected with the vitality of youth while handing on the faith.

Are you NEW TO THE PARISH or even **TO THE FAITH?** Involvement in catechetical ministry "plugs you into" the vibrancy of parish life.

Are you an EMPTY NESTER? Fulfill your needs and generate a new friendship with Christ through the youth.

Are you a TEEN looking to fulfill service hours or just love to be with children and want to share your love of Jesus?

If you can answer yes to any of these questions, we would like to have you join our Faith Formation team of teachers and aides! Please contact Sharon Smoller at ssmoller@straphaelcgs.org or 412-857-5356 x429 for more information.

Happy Anniversary

Congratulations and God's blessings
to

JOANN AND DON CAIN

who are celebrating 63 years of marriage this week!

In thanksgiving for their many blessings

LOIS AND RON FERRIE

celebrate 69 years of marriage on July 17.



WE WELCOME TO OUR PARISH FAMILY:

The Skvarca Family
Robert, Carling, and Adelynn

Annette Frontz
and family

We're so glad you're here!



Congratulations, best wishes, and God's blessings to the new officers for the Ladies of Charity from the Parish of St. Raphael the Archangel.

From left to right: Mary Ann Felke and Mary Rogowsky (Co-Secretaries); Barbara Donehue (Treasurer); Leslie Charitan (President); Janet Spaulding and Sherry Finnerty (Co-Vice-Presidents); and Fr. John Gudewicz



Wednesday, August 2, 2023
1:30 to 4:00 p.m.

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CHURCH
IN ST. LUKE HALL

Buffet includes:

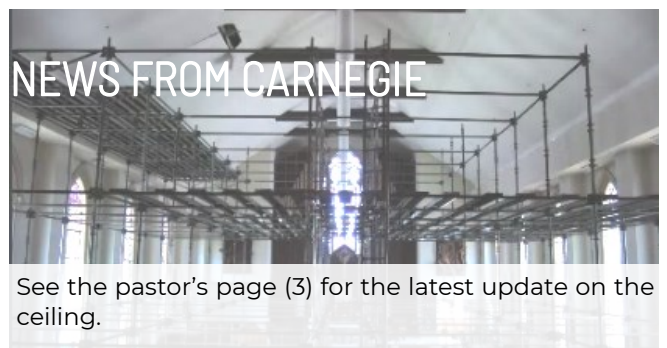
Honey-fried chicken ♦ Lasagna ♦ Au gratin potatoes
♦ Tortellini Salad ♦ Fresh Fruit Salad

\$25

Last call! Deadline extended
until tomorrow, July 17!

You MUST RSVP to attend!

Call Don Cain:
412-279-0885



NEWS FROM CARNEGIE

See the pastor's page (3) for the latest update on the ceiling.

The office is still open, but the main entrance is being used for the construction crew only. Please use the 4th Street entrance. Ring the bell to gain access. The office is located at the top of the first set of stairs. If you require a handicapped entrance, please call the office for assistance. We thank you for your patience during this inconvenience.

IN GRATITUDE

Parishioner Michele Rea would like to thank everyone for their prayers. Her name was listed in our prayer column on page 3 and was removed this week because she is "100% better."

Please continue to pray for those listed on page 3, as well as the parishioners listed as our faithful departed. If you have the time, it's always nice to pray for those listed in our Mass intentions as well as our tabernacle candle dedications. There is much power in prayer.

Pastoral Planning

ENVISIONING TEAM AND PURPOSE

An essential step before beginning a pastoral plan is to establish a parish Envisioning Team consisting of five to seven members. This team will assist Father with analyzing the results of the Disciple Maker Index Survey and in the creation of a pastoral plan. A pastoral plan lays the path for how best the parish is going to achieve its mission and lead parishioners in furthering our call to Jesus and our ability to lead others to Jesus.

The Church teaches that the purpose of the parish is to proclaim the Gospel, celebrate the Sacraments, and promote works of charity all directed towards the salvation of souls. The process of pastoral planning will allow us to bring this purpose to life as we strive to live out the mission entrusted to the Church by Christ: *"Go into the whole world and proclaim the Good News to all of creation."* —Mark 16:15

As a reminder, in order to give ample time for all parishes to prepare for the distribution of DMI results and to ensure that all parishes are receiving information in a consistent manner, a universal distribution date for DMI results has been established for the weekend of August 19/20, 2023. All parishes in the diocese will use a common template to publish their individual results.

The weekend of August 26/27, 2023 aggregate results for the entire diocese will be published in parish bulletins.

KEEPING OUR KIDS SAFE

Dear Volunteers,

Thank you, thank you, thank you for all the help that you provided to make the Parish Festival such a tremendous event! The sheer numbers of all the volunteers involved is mindboggling!! Thank you to the chairmen and chairwomen of all the booths, the booth workers, the setup and teardown crews and all of the people both seen and behind the scenes that have put all of the activities and events together to make it such a wonderful affair for all ages. A GIANT THANK YOU to all of the volunteers who took the time to get their clearances so that they could be in full compliance with the Safe Environment Policy of the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

For those of you who did not volunteer and are thinking that these volunteers really look like they are having fun, you might want to be a part of it in the future! The time is now to jump in and get your clearances so that you are ready to volunteer for future events. Here is how:

1. Go to the diopitt.org website (the official website of the Diocese of Pittsburgh) and click on Obtain Clearances at the top of the page.
2. Choose the category that describes you (most people fit into the Parish Volunteer group).
3. Complete the no. 1 requirement, which is to register on the virtusonline.org website.
4. Please note: once you submit your registration, you will be in the process of being approved, and during this time a PA Criminal Background Check will be obtained for you.
5. After you are approved at the diocesan level, the necessary Protecting God's Children Class will be loaded onto your profile for you to complete. Approval usually takes a few hours or up to a day or two.

Other details are listed on the category that you chose and are simple to complete. All requirements may be completed in a few hours.

No computer—no problem! Just call Karen Maurer to make an appointment to complete the requirements on a computer set up in her office.

As Nike says, "Just Do It!" Do it for the church, do it for the kids, do it for yourself. To be a volunteer and have clearances is not an option—it is an obligation. Questions? Call Safe Environment Coordinator, Karen Maurer, at 412-857-5356, ext. 430 or email karen@straphaelcgs.org.

SSJ EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER



There are still openings in the PreK 3 program. To learn more, click "Education" on the parish homepage: straphaelcgs.org.



BEACH DAY



Pre-school Mother's Day Tea for all of our amazing Moms. The kids made crafts, had snacks, sang songs, and danced with their moms.



MAY CROWNING



SSJ EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER



Four classes with a total of 75 preschoolers graduated from our PreK 4 program. We will miss these wonderful kiddos and their families.



(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Soil Conditions

I am a hopeless gardener. I never met a plant I couldn't swiftly kill with good intentions and poor understanding of soil conditions.

Because really, it's all about the soil conditions — at least, that's what Google tells me when I helplessly search phrases like “Why aren't any of my seeds sprouting? Please, I tried so hard.” I can never seem to match the right type of soil offering the right type of drainage and texture with the right plant. I can't understand why it's not enough to bury the seed in whatever ground is available, sprinkle some water and ask it, very nicely, to grow.

This is also a quality that makes me a poor evangelist to people who do not share my beliefs. How many times have I encountered a friend or loved one who left the faith, and I tried to coax them back by hurling Catechism passages in their direction, offering advice they never asked for and are ill-equipped to understand? I sow these seeds of witness and bang my fists in frustration that they rot where I plant them, never realizing that it's all about the soil.

It is Christ, and Christ alone, who works within the heart. It is Christ who is the sower of the seed, not me. When I leave him out of the equation, when I fail to offer the Person and instead only offer the teaching, I can anticipate that any witness I have to offer will rot where it is planted just as sure as a tulip bulb in a bed of clay.

*“...my word shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it.”
— Isaiah 55:11*

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Why do we use incense at Mass?

Answer:

The use of incense in religious ceremonies and worship is a practice that predates Christianity, and which is also found in many other religious traditions today.

Incense, which is made from resin infused with aromatic spices and oils, is one of those fundamentally human symbols that incorporates more than one of our senses, helping us to reflect on realities that transcend the everyday details of our lives.

The use of incense in the Church's liturgy — in the Mass, as well as in devotions to the Eucharist and the Liturgy of the Hours — is inspired by the use of incense in the Jewish tradition. In the writings of the Old Testament, we hear about incense being used in the worship of the temple, and Psalm 141 asks, “Let my prayer be incense before you; my uplifted hands an evening offering” (vs. 2). The image here is that, as the incense gently rises to heaven, our prayers also rise to God as something sweet and pleasant.

Another ancient use of incense that has also become part of our Catholic tradition is the idea that when we incense something, it's because it is something special or sacred. This is why the Book of the Gospel is incensed during the Liturgy of the Word and the bread, wine, priest celebrant, and congregation are incensed at the presentation of the gifts. To this, we can also add the incensing of the Blessed Sacrament during eucharistic adoration and benediction, and the body of the deceased at the end of the Mass of the Resurrection (the Funeral Mass).

And he spoke to them at length in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow...Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold. Whoever has ears ought to hear."

- Mt 13:3, 7-9

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

Questions of the Week

Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

The prophet Isaiah assured the Israelites who were exiled in Babylon that God's word is reliable and purposeful. How might you help friends or family trust more in God?

Second Reading

Paul sees creation itself sharing in the redemption and future glory that awaits all believers — "For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God." What do you imagine earth would look like filled with God's glory, absent any "corruption?"

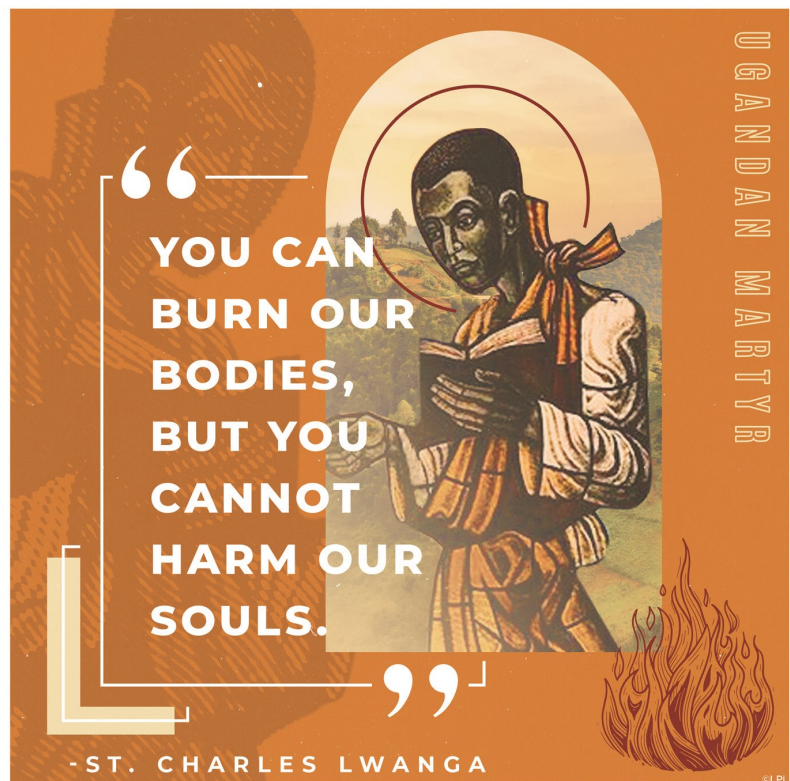
Gospel Reading

Over the next few Sundays, we will be hearing many parables from Jesus. Today's parable of the sower and the seeds speaks to how people react differently to the Good News of the kingdom of heaven. How would you describe your reaction to Jesus's parables of the kingdom?



Support our local advertisers

Please show your support for your parish by also supporting our advertisers. We wouldn't be able to bring you our bulletin every week without them. Please encourage and remind others to show their support and shop local.



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ST. RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

815001 - Saint Raphael the Archangel

(Quarter-4 2022/2023)

OPERATING REVENUE:

Offertory Collections	1,651,046
Donations & Bequests	731,287
Fundraising	213,109
Other Income	43,969
	2,639,411

OPERATING EXPENSE:

Administration	784,352
Operations & Maintenance	520,879
Liturgical & Rectory	229,566
Religious Ed & School Subsidy	218,692
Property & Liability Insurance	80,770
Social/ Outreach/ Other	(14,191)
	1,820,068

OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT) 819,343

NON-OPERATING ITEMS:

Campaign Income	42,340
Net Parish Share	186,123
Extraordinary Maintenance Expense	(710,296)
Net Third Party Collections	(585)
Proceeds from Sale of Assets	24,575
Proceeds from Insurance Claim (Net)	49,439
	(408,404)

FEATURED ASSETS and LIABILITIES at 6/30/2023

ASSETS:

Unrestricted Funds:

Cash	759,532
Deposit & Loan Operating Savings	603,997
	1,363,529

Restricted Funds:

Deposit & Loan Restricted Savings	36
Deposit & Loan Restricted Campaign	308,125
Parish Endowment Investment	-
Other Investments	-
Parish Share Due from Parishioners	-
	308,161

LIABILITIES:

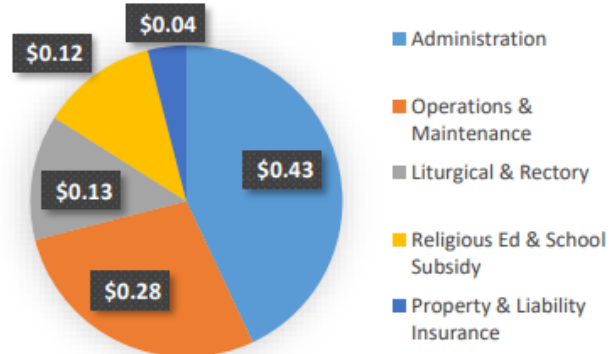
Insurance Past Due	-
Parish Share Due to Diocese	-
Deposit & Loan Borrowing Debt	1,234,421
Other Payables	1,811
	1,236,232

Revenue vs. Expense for 7-1-2022 thru 6-30-2023

Revenue: 2,639,411

Expense: 1,820,068

How each Expense Dollar Supports the Parish



A Parish is much like a business. There are costs that keep the Parish running. The pie chart above details how your dollars are spent. The following line items include but are not limited to:

Offertory Collections - Offertory, Parish Appeal

Other Income - Interest Income, Hall Rentals, Votive

Administration -

Staff, Office Supplies/Equipment, Management Fee

Operations & Maintenance -

Staff, Church Utilities, Upkeep, Taxes, Supplies

Religious Ed & School Subsidy -

Staff, Supplies, CCD, Adult Ed, RCIA, Elem School Grant

Liturgical & Rectory -

Staff, Worship Expense, Rectory Food, Utilities, Upkeep

Social/Outreach/Other -

Youth, Community, Net Rental Property, Preschool

Campaign Income - Capital Imp., Debt Reduction, etc.

Extraordinary Maintenance Expense -

Purchases/Improvements over \$4,000

Net Third Party Collections -

e.g. St. Anthony's, Holy Land, Peter's Pence

Other - Endowment, Tuition Assistance

THANK YOU!

As this bulletin goes to print, the festival has not even started yet — for most of us. But for the men and women behind the scenes, this year's festival started the day after last year's festival ended. They packed away supplies, took inventories, cleaned equipment, and took notes on how to improve things for this year. They are always looking to make it better and better. We thank them for the months of planning and the weeks of hard labor to make it a well-oiled machine. As Fr. Grecco mentions in his column, most of us cannot comprehend the hours and hours of work. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and we are truly grateful for the festival chairmen: Peggy Sembrat, Kim Bissert, Cris Bridge, Joe Walther, and Pat Walther. We are also grateful for those who also worked tirelessly for months in publicity and with vendors, in the Flea Market, with Raffle Sales, and of course the giant Chinese Auction. These jobs (and more) require dedication and hard work beyond just this week. And of course, we thank those of you who have sat at the tent on Greentree Road, or bought and sold tickets, or donated treasures, or baked delicious treats, and/or have signed up to work or chair a booth. We have a such a great parish! Thank you to everyone!

HELP WANTED

HELP US TO PACK IT AWAY!

Please come to our annual festival cleanup on Sunday (today). We could use many hands! The task is always easier with friends, so bring a few with you! Or come alone and make some friends as you work. We will start in the morning and won't leave until we are done. If we get a good crowd, we could be done by 1:00 p.m. and then *finally* get to relax! Call Peg with questions: 412-818-6623.



Congratulations to the following parishioners who achieved Honor Roll status at Seton La Salle High School for the fourth quarter:

Highest Honors

Margaret Brown

High Honors

Justin Metz
Joseph Schilinski

Honors

John LeMasters
Justin Savko



HERE FOR YOU

Mercy in Action

Sick Calls

If you or a loved one are admitted to a hospital or nursing home, please ask the nursing staff to contact the Catholic priest on call for the facility, or let us know so we can get you the proper spiritual care. Because of the HIPAA law, treatment facilities are not permitted to release your information to us unless you or your family give them permission to do so.

Home Visits

If you are homebound and desire Holy Communion and/or the Sacraments of Healing (Penance or Anointing of the Sick) please call Laura at the parish office: 412-857-5356 ext.431.

St. Vincent de Paul Society:

412-444-5424

If you are in need, SVdP may be able to assist you. Individual cases are confidentially evaluated and help is provided as our resources and guidelines allow. A variety of direct services including clothing, furniture, utility assistance, and more may be available.

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry*

412-489-5848

Our pantry supports local families who are unable to make ends meet or who have experienced a recent crisis. This second branch of our SVdP outreach program is specific to the mission of feeding the hungry. Open Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. to Noon; stop by or call to learn more.

**Located at the Administration Center in the back of the building: 330 Third Avenue (rear) The street is named Barrett Way.*

THE PARISH OF ST. RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Serving the Catholic Community in Carnegie, Green Tree, and Scott

412-857-5356

STRAPHAELCGS.ORG

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church

330 3rd Ave.
Carnegie, PA 15106

St. Margaret of Scotland Church

310 Mansfield Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15220

Ss. Simon and Jude Church

1607 Greentree Rd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15220

THE PARISH ADMINISTRATION CENTER IS LOCATED AT 330 3RD AVENUE IN CARNEGIE

Office Hours: Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

MASSSES ARE LIVE STREAMED AND RECORDED EVERYDAY.

Go to straphaelcgs.org and click the "Livestream" button to see the schedule and watch live or recorded Masses.

CLERGY TEAM

Pastor

Rev. Robert Grecco
ext. 412
rgrecco@straphaelcgs.org

Senior Parochial Vicar

Rev. Daniel Maurer
ext. 413
dmaurer@diopitt.org

Deacons

Dcn. Jim Mackin
jmackin@straphaelcgs.org

In Residence

Rev. Jerome Etenduk
etendukj@duq.edu

Dcn. Kevin Lander
klander@diopitt.org

Rev. Robin Evanish
revanish@diopitt.org

Dcn. Paul Lim
RCIA Coordinator
pLim@diopitt.org

Rev. James McDonough
jmcdonough@diopitt.org

Chaplain

Rev. Michael Yaksick
myaksick@diopitt.org

PARISH STAFF

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Facilities Manager

Tim Castello ♦ ext. 416
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Safe Environment

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karen@straphaelcgs.org

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ssmoller@straphaelcgs.org

Administrative Assistants

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Cathy Mulkerrin ♦ ext. 410
cathy@straphaelcgs.org

Laura O'Keeffe ♦ ext. 431
laura@straphaelcgs.org

Maintenance

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maintenance@straphaelcgs.org

Communications

Mary Kay Smith ♦ ext. 422
mksmith@straphaelcgs.org

Daniel Stranko
dstranko@straphaelcgs.org

SACRAMENTS

Baptisms

For arrangements please call the parish office.

Anointing

Call the parish office for arrangements if in danger of death.
If hospitalized or in a skilled nursing facility, please ask the nursing staff to contact the Catholic priest on call.

Marriage

Arrangements must be made with one of the priests *at least six months before* the proposed date of the wedding.

Note:

You must be a registered and active parishioner for at least **six months** before requesting sacramental sponsor forms. Please allow **three weeks** for completion.

Penance

Saturdays: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
at St. Margaret of Scotland Church, and Noon to 1:00 p.m.
at St. Elizabeth Ann Church

Livestream questions: livestream@straphaelcgs.org

Flocknote

Text StRaphaelCGS to 84576
Learn more: flocknote.com

Saint Vincent de Paul

412-444-5424

Sacramental Records

412-456-3158

SVdP Food Pantry

at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
412-489-5848

SCHOOLS

Guardian Angel Academy Elementary School

Principal: Robert Munz
rmunz@guardianangelacademy.org
915 Alice Street Pgh PA 15220
412-922-4765

Ss. Simon and Jude Pre-school

Director: Trish Costantino
office1625@gmail.com
1625 Greentree Rd. Pgh 15220
412-819-4050

BULLETIN DEADLINE
Mondays by Noon
mksmith@straphaelcgs.org

**DIOCESE VICTIM
ASSISTANCE HOTLINE**
1-888-808-1235
Diocesan Victim Assistance
Coordinator: 412-456-3093
CHILDLINE: 1-800-932-0313