

ST. RAPHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

June 9, 2019



1513 Dunster Road ♦ Rockville, Maryland 20854

Parish Office Hours Monday-Friday: 9:00 AM–5:00 PM

Parish Phone 301-762-2143
Parish Fax 301-762-0719
Website www.straphaels.org

Rev. Michael Salah, Pastor, ext. 112
Rev. Dan Gallagher, Parochial Vicar, ext. 150
Rev. Thomas Morrow, Retired, ext. 128

Deacon Jose Carbonell, ext. 187
Deacon Jorge Gatica, ext. 164
Deacon Richard Mattocks, 301-928-8227
Deacon Frank Salatto, ext. 149
Mary J. Beaudoin, Dir. Of Religious Education, ext. 124
Gerri Stoner, St. Raphael School Secretary, ext. 122
Teri Dwyer, Principal, Baptism Coordinator, ext. 121
Eileen Kutchak, Dir. of Parish Programming, ext. 110
Luisa Duarte, Spanish Coordinator, 240-864-2565
Pietro Lojacono, Assistant for Religious Education, ext. 123
Annalee McHugh, Youth Minister, 240-864-2519
Vince Natali, Dir. Of Music Ministries, 240-864-2532
Suzanne Nelson, Adult Faith Formation, 443-472-3730
Linda Poindexter, RCIA Coordinator, 240-864-2543
Elaine Salatto, Publications, Welcoming, 240-864-2513
Sandy Shamburek, Social Concerns Coordinator, 240-864-2514

New Parishioners: A warm welcome to St. Raphael's Catholic Church. Blue registration cards are available on the wall rack in the main entrance of the church. The Parish Wide Ministry Resource List can be found on our website by clicking Ministries, Social Responsibility, and Documents.

For Life Affirming Resources:

<http://www.adw.org/pregnant-need-help/>
Healing after abortion? Project Rachel 301-853-4565

Weekend Masses:

Saturday: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30AM,
1:00PM (español), 6:00PM (youth)

Weekday Masses:

Monday thru Friday: 6:30 and 9:00AM
Saturday: 9:00 AM

Penance:

Tuesday: 7:00 - 7:30 PM and
Saturday: 3:45 - 4:30 PM

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Tuesday: 6:45 PM
Thursday: 9:30 AM

Benediction:

Tuesday, following novena 7:45 PM
Thursday, 7:15PM

Miraculous Medal Novena:

Tuesday, 7:30PM

Divine Mercy Chaplet:

Tuesday, following Novena
Thursday, 7:00PM

Sacrament of Baptism: Parish Registration and a Baptism class is required. Please contact Teri Dwyer to register and plan to attend the class while awaiting the birth or adoption of your child.

Sacrament of Matrimony: In accord with the regulations of the Archdiocese of Washington, couples must contact a priest and begin preparation at least six months prior to the wedding. Parish registration and active participation for the minimum of three months is required before preparation may begin. Living together before marriage is sinful and harmful to the future marriage. Couples who are living together will be asked to live separately during the preparation time.

What does it mean to be an active Catholic? Frequently, those seeking to celebrate Marriage, have children baptized, or serve as sponsors for Confirmation or Baptism request a letter stating they are parishioners and active, practicing Catholics. To receive such a letter, one must be registered in the parish, attend Mass regularly, and be committed to a stewardship of time, talent, and treasure. We encourage all parishioners to become active in one of the parish organizations. In a community as large as St. Raphael, one means of verifying participation is through the regular use of parish offertory envelopes. If you choose not to participate in the support of the parish, or are unable to contribute at this time, please at least note your prayerful support on your envelope and place it in the weekly offertory. We will then be aware of your continued participation, and you will not be noted as "inactive" on our parish roster.

St. Raphael Garage to Attic Sale

The *Mater Dei* Council of the Knights of Columbus is holding its annual charity **Garage-to-Attic Sale** on Saturday, **June 22nd**, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM at St. Raphael's Church. Over the past, this annual event resulted in donations of almost \$500,000 to local charities.

Please participate in this popular event by shopping for deals on Saturday and/or donating household items or furniture the day before on Friday, June 21st from 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM). Receipts will be available.

We accept any donated items in **good condition**

except the following:

- Bedding (we will take bed frames and springs)
- Non-working electrical or mechanical items
- Christmas decorations
- Rubber tires
- Dirty clothing
- Fuel (except in lawn-item gas tanks – let us know when you bring it in)

Pick-up assistance may be available on a case-by-case basis for large or expensive items if you are unable to transport them. Please contact Joe Doane at 240-464-8285 or joe@simplexstruc.com for information on the event and for evaluating and coordinating pick-ups.

Holy Hour for Vocations

Join your fellow parishioners in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament at the

"Holy Hour for the intentions of the Ordinandi" and an increase in Vocations to the priesthood and Consecrated Life on

**Thursday, June 13,
6:15-7:15PM,
St. Raphael Church**

Unite with parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Washington as we anticipate the Ordination of our Priests on June 15! This year's Ordinandi:

**Deacon John Benson
Deacon Joseph Cwik
Deacon Brendan Glasgow
Deacon Christian Huebner
Deacon Ebuka Mbanude
Deacon Stefan Megyery
Deacon Patrick Mullan
Deacon Benjamin Petty
Deacon Jan Pietryga
Deacon Michael Russo**

Every vocation, every path to which Christ calls us, ultimately leads to fulfillment and happiness, because it leads to God, to sharing in God's own life."

– Pope John Paul II

Mass Schedule and Intentions for the Week

Monday	June 10	
6:30 AM	Fintan Tavey (d)	
9:00 AM	Marion Wilson (d)	
Tuesday	June 11	
6:30 AM	George Forster (d)	
9:00 AM	Bernard John Robson (d)	
Wednesday	June 12	
6:30 AM	James Obendorfer (d)	
9:00 AM	Palmer Sullivan	
Thursday	June 13	
6:30 AM	Georgia Berchtold (d)	
9:00 AM	Thomas E. Lynch (d)	
Friday	June 14	
6:30 AM	Steven Bauman (d)	
9:00 AM	Jim Bogart (d)	
Saturday	June 15	
9:00 AM	George Joseph (d)	
5:00 PM	Fr. Gallagher Edward & Helen Janus (d)	
Sunday	June 16	
7:00 AM	Fr. Morrow	Alexander Aino (d)
8:30 AM	Fr. Salah	Fathers
10:00 AM	Fr. Gallagher	Rev. Robert S. Shinos (d)
11:30 AM	Fr. Salah	Jack Tate (d)
1:00 PM	Visiting Priest	Deacon Larry & Beatrice Gordon (d)
6:00 PM	Fr. Morrow	Jack Nill (d)

The Priest Mass Schedule is subject to change.

Schedule for Confession:

Tuesday, June 11, 7:00 PM

Saturday, June 15, 3:45-4:30 PM

RCIA/RICA (Spanish RCIA): Non-Catholics or Catholics who have not received Eucharist and Confirmation, come and discover more about the Catholic Faith! Contact Linda Poindexter, 240-864-2543, lpindexter@straphaels.org and for Spanish: Luis & Maruja Quezada, 301-330-5982, for details. Any youth interested in becoming Catholic contact the Office of Religious Education, 301-762-2143, ext. 124.

Education:

St. Raphael School: 301-762-2143—Mrs. Teri Dwyer, Principal

Baptisms:

Jack Cunnane Pilog June 1



PENTECOST SUNDAY

Monday June 10	Tuesday June 11	Wednesday June 12	Thursday June 13	Friday June 14	Saturday June 15	Sunday June 16
SVDP, 6:30PM, Parish Library	Exposition, Novena, Benediction, 6:45PM, Church	Contemplative Prayer, 9:45AM, Upper Room D	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after 9AM Mass	Spanish Prayer, 7PM, Upper Room ABC, Youth Center	Spanish Bible Study, 10AM, Upper Room D	Parish Library is Open, 8:00AM-1PM
Spanish Committee, 7:30PM, Upper Room ABC	Spanish Prayer, 7PM, Upper Room ABC	Book Club, 9 ⁴⁵ AM, Youth Center	Holy Hour for Vocations, 6:15-7:15PM, followed by Benediction	Light of Christ Prayer, 7:30PM, Parish Library	Spanish Ministry, 1:30PM, Youth Center	Spanish Choir Rehearsal, 11:30AM, Upper Room ABC
	Cofradia of Our Lord of Miracles, 7PM, Upper Room D	Spanish Ministry, 6:30PM, Room 9	Social Concerns, 7PM, Upper Room D			Scripture Study Spanish, 11:30AM, Youth Center
	Knights of Columbus, 7:30PM, Youth Center	Legion of Mary, English, 7PM, Room 10	Baptism Prep, Spanish, 7PM, Room 12			Spanish Prayer, 2:30PM, Upper Room ABC, Duffy Center 3456
		Young Adult Divine Mercy Spanish, 7:30PM, Upper Room ABC	Knights of Columbus, 7:30PM, Duffy Center 4, 6		Respect for Life Baby Bottle Collection this weekend	Youth Band, 3:45PM, Church
			Baptism Prep, English, 7:30PM, Room 11			No Youth Ministry
			Legion of Mary, Spanish, 7:30PM, Upper Room ABC			
			Boy Scouts, 7:30PM, Trumpet Room			
			Bible Study, 7:30PM, Room 11			

June 3, 2019

Offertory \$41,131.13

Poor Box: \$174.00

To enroll in Faith Direct, direct debit program, visit www.faithdirect.net to enroll securely on line or complete an enrollment form. Our parish code is MD34.

Have you ever wanted to learn more about Catholicism?

Maybe you have thought about joining the Church?

Have you been wondering why do they do that?

Would you like to learn to pray comfortably?

*For more information please contact
Joyce Aubrey at (941) 223-7715 or
Linda Poindexter at (240) 864-2543*

Parish Council: Please feel free to contact a Parish Council member listed here to discuss your views, opinions, or concerns regarding our parish.

Janet Leonard-Walker—301-315-0863

Larry Boesch—301-762-7134

Bulletin notices are due in writing ON FRIDAY, THE WEEK BEFORE THE published date. Notices may be emailed to: esalatto@straphaels.org. We no longer produce bulletin inserts instead have it summarized and put in the bulletin. Please note that graphic PDF's and graphic page inserts are to be sized 1/4 page and 1/8 page and will be placed as space permits.



Kitty Gleavy, Carolyn Huard, Eugene Kline, Joan Lombardi, Yasmine Tashman, William Valentine

Please pray for soul of Bridget Crehan.

If you are on the mend and wish your name to be removed from our prayer list, please call the parish office and let us know. Names on this list are only included with permission of the individuals. They will remain on the list for one month, and can be repeated by calling the parish office.

Ministry to the Sick: The priests of the parish want very much to make sure that parishioners who are hospitalized or homebound receive pastoral care. We depend on the families and neighbors of parishioners to notify the parish office so we can bring you the sacraments. If you would like to receive Communion, a visit from Priest/Deacon or are going into the hospital please call the parish office. For immediate needs ask for one of the Priests.

The bulletin cover this week

Photo-booth fun at the St. Raphael Nursery School 50th-anniversary celebration! Clockwise from top left: Nan Waffan, Rowena de Leon, Rina Chaves, Fr. Mike Salah (holding Raffi), MJ Zafis-Garcia, Amy May, Francine Krivka, and Marie Novak. Watch for more photos from the event in next week's bulletin, and view more online on the school's Facebook page @srsrockville.

Legion of Mary/English

We would like to organize the Legion of Mary in English here at St. Raphael. If you are interested and want to learn more about the Legion of Mary devotion and grow in the spiritual life, please call Olga at 240-614-6569 for more information.

Altar Server Training

Would you like to serve as an Altar Server by assisting the priest and deacon at Holy Mass?

For more information and training, students rising to 4th grade and up are invited to contact:

Karen Watson at: straphaelaltarserver20854@gmail.com

St. Raphael Honor Roll

Please pray for those serving in our armed forces and for those families who have suffered loss.

Daniel Bertrand Del Bianco, USN (d) and family
LT Victor H. Esch, III, USA
Cpt Paul D Galvin
E-3/HN Colleen Gardella
Robert Garret, US Army MP
Taylor Hardy, AE USN
Ens. Andrew Hayes, USN
Jake Klosowski, USNA
Captain Frank Lowery, USN
Commander Mike McNally, USN
Charles McTavish, USA
Col. Ivan Monclova
LT Zachary Poindexter, USN
1LT Will Quackenbush, USA
LT Paul Schauppner, USN
LT James Sheets (USN)
2nd Lt. Andrew Valentine USMA
LT Kenneth Yale, USAF

Changes: e-mail esalatto@straphaels.org

FREE SEMINAR: FertilityCare™ for Natural Family Planning

Learn the Basics of FertilityCare™ for Natural Women's Health and Family Planning

FertilityCare™ is a fertility awareness-based method of natural family planning (NFP) that is reliable and effective for use with regular or irregular cycles and during breastfeeding or perimenopause. Teens and women (through menopause) can use this method for evaluation of ovulatory time in discovery of underlying causes of pain, irregularity, miscarriage, infertility or subfertility issues.

Information will be provided about private, follow-up sessions and materials for purchase. Teens are welcome. Couples are encouraged to attend together.

Speaker: **Therese Rodriguez, RN, CFCP**
Certified FertilityCare™ Practitioner

Dates: **Tuesdays, February 27 or April 24, 2018**
Holy Cross Germantown Hospital
19801 Observation Drive, Germantown, MD 20876

Tuesday, June 26, 2018
Holy Cross Hospital
Holy Cross Health Conference Center
1500 Forest Glen Road, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Time: **7 to 9 p.m.**

To register, call 301-754-8800 or visit
HolyCrossHealth.org.

Faith Formation for People with Special Needs

In the fall of 2012 St. Raphael started a religious education program for students with autism and other special needs who could not be accommodated in our typical classes. The first class had three students. Since then the program has blossomed and grown. Two weeks ago, five students from our program received the Sacrament of Confirmation. It was a beautiful ceremony where they celebrated with over 40 of their peers who were also being confirmed. Marie Novak's son, Henry, was one of the original three students in our first class and he was also one of those confirmed. Here Marie shares her experience:

Henry was diagnosed with autism at age 2, and once we realized his needs could not be accommodated in a traditional preschool setting we knew he would be taking a very different path than his older sister, who attended SRNS and later SRS. In addition to the host of challenges we faced, we worried about his religious education. Would he understand our faith as he grew older? How would he learn if he couldn't go to a typical religious education class?



Two other SRS families we knew were in the same predicament, each having a child of the same age with autism. A call went out for volunteers to teach these three special children, and St. Raphael's parishioners answered. We were overwhelmed with the helping hands that came forward, both with and without special needs experience. It was NOT easy. The volunteers who stepped forward shared their talents and spent countless hours preparing materials and lessons. Henry received his first communion on time. I can't express the joy I still feel every time Henry (now 13) receives communion. We are proud to be part of the community that made this happen. Our group has grown. Five students were confirmed on May 18th, including Henry. These children are truly a joy, and we are grateful for the support of Maria Harrington, who leads the program, all the aides, our wonderful priests and the entire parish.

Do you or someone you know have a child/adult with special needs in their family? Has the child/adult received the Sacraments? Does the family feel like they can't come to church with their family member with special needs? We want to help! Please contact Maria Harrington (mariaharrington@msn.com) or Mary Beaudoin in the RE Office. ALL Are Welcome!



PRAY THE ROSARY



On Sunday, June 23, we celebrate
The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi).

We will have a procession with the Blessed Sacrament after the 1:00PM Mass around the parking lot.

Come! Let us adore Him.

We will pray the rosary for our needs and for those of the world.

There will be adoration and blessing with the Blessed Sacrament in the church after the procession.

Young Adult Catholics - 2019 Epic Barbecue -

we are expecting 100 young single Catholics this coming Saturday 6 PM at Our Lady of Lourdes school in Bethesda. \$10 admission. Food, beer, wine, games.

Facebook event - <https://www.facebook.com/events/378911942830294/>

**Parish Library is NOW Open
Sunday after Masses
from 8AM to 1PM
Entrance at the circle**

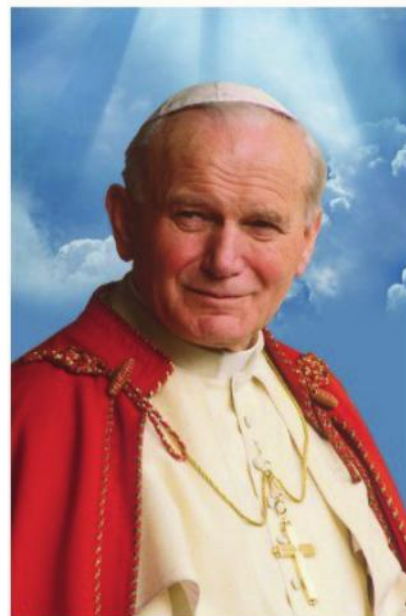
3 Lessons from JP2 for Every1

1. Mary - June 28
2. Mercy - July 5
3. Marriage - July 12

The Pope's great love revealed
new vision for our Church...

*By seminarian James Fangmeyer,
Following 9am Mass,
In the Parish Library*

All are invited!



School News



A peek behind our classroom doors

JUNE 9, 2019



Sprinkler Day!



There's no better way for our preschoolers to celebrate the end of a fantastic school year than Sprinkler Day!



Photos by MJ Zafis-Garcia

**For more photos
from Sprinkler
Day, visit our
Facebook Page**



www.straphaelschoolmd.org | www.srnsmd.org |    @SRSrockville



Photo by Tom Carrington

Congratulations, Class of 2019!

Our commencement Mass was a beautiful celebration of “Roots and Wings”—our theme for this school year. We wish all the best to our newest alumni and their families! For more graduation photos, visit our Facebook Page.



Calling all SRS alumni...

Field Day is Monday! We love when our graduates come home to help out at this fun event. And, yes, the dunk tank will be back, so bring \$5 for a chance to dunk your favorite teacher!

www.straphaelschoolmd.org | www.srsmd.org |    @SRSrockville

Social Responsibility and Outreach (SRO)

Sandy Shamburek, 240-864-2514



Vincentian reflection: Today, as we celebrate Pentecost, the Holy Spirit wants to make us advocates of God's presence to bring new life to others, especially those who do not know the love of God in their lives. We are all called to evangelize so that all those around us know how much God loves and cares for them. Who needs evangelization? Well, we all do but perhaps those who need it the most are the poor. When in times of economic need or crisis, they may not be able to sort out how to work for a resolution to their needs. It brings great comfort to have strangers help them to believe in the mystery of God's love for them. Take a moment to express your love for someone who is lost; ***"It can be as simple as a reassuring touch or helping hand, or as demanding as giving of our time and money."*** (Living Liturgy, p.140).

Are you looking to help out your parish in the fall?

Please consider offering your time and/or talents to serve as a leader for several fall events. The first event is the **Thanksgiving Food Drive**, which works really well with co-chairs! The second event is serving as a co-chair for our **Mother Teresa** event in December. Volunteers are welcome for other ministries during all times of the year, including **The Society of St. Vincent de Paul/St. Raphael Conference**, joining our **Angel Friends Program** and participating in the preparation plans for lobbying our MD elected legislators in 2020. To inquire, call Sandy Shamburek at 240-864-2514. In order for all of these events to be successful, we need parishioners.

Christmas in July: Each year in December, St. Raphael KOC, SRO, SRS students and other parishioners volunteer to provide a Christmas celebration for our brothers and sisters served by two Missionaries of Charity Houses in D.C. In July, we start a toiletry drive for part of the gift we provide for each guest. This year, we will be collecting: **bar soap, shampoo and conditioner (2 oz. bottles each), a tube of hand lotion, a toothbrush, and one pair of heavy, warm socks.** See the sample boxes located on top of the air conditioner units in the vestibule. Drop off your donation at the parish office during the work week, M-F from 10 AM until 4 PM during the entire month of July. It is very helpful to have these items in a gallon-sized zip-lock bag. Thank you again for your loving support.



"How can we not give thanks to God for the wonders the Spirit has never ceased to accomplish in these two millenniums of Christian life?"

~Pope Saint John Paul, II

Pray for Bethesda: Join other concerned people for the weekly prayer vigil *every Monday morning* from 9 AM until 11 AM on the public sidewalk north of the Wildwood Shopping Center (in front of the Sun Trust Bank) on Old Georgetown Road in Bethesda. Parking is restricted so visit www.prayforbethesda.com for instructions on legal parking. Contact Dick Retta (301 538 2500) or Missy Smith (202 288 4984) for details.

Natural Family Planning (NFP): Many people think this means the "Rhythm Method". That was a method from the last century. It was not very effective. With technology and research new developments have been made in understanding women's health. Whether it's using a device to monitor for hormonal surges or using an app on her phone, women can get to know the natural patterns of their bodies and use them to help plan or postpone pregnancy while praying with her spouse in line with the teachings of the Catholic Church. Reading **Humanae Vitae** or **The Contraception Deception** by Patrick Coffin can help explain these teachings further.

Youth Ministry

Annie McHugh, 240-864-2519

High School Youth

Senior Night – June 9

At Youth Group on June 9 we'll celebrate our seniors! So many young people fall away from the Church during college, so we strive to send our graduates off equipped to live their faith through college and beyond. Senior Night is a chance for underclassmen to thank seniors, a discussion about practicing faith in college, and a special Eucharistic blessing. All high school teens are invited to join us from 7-9PM in the Youth Center.

No Youth Group – June 16

"I'm 'Spiritual' Not 'Religious'" – June 23

Many in today's culture identify as "spiritual" and not "religious" and don't see a need to subscribe to any particular religious denomination. At Youth Group on June 23, we'll talk about the importance of practicing an organized religion – particularly the Catholic one! All high school teens are invited to join us from 7-9PM in the Youth Center for pizza, games, and a great discussion.

Young Adults

College-Age Book Study – June-August

Young adults who are college-age are invited to a summer-long book study. This peer-led study meets on Sunday nights from 7-9PM in the Upper Room. For more information or to sign up, contact Annie, amchugh@straphaels.org.

Religious Education

Mary Beaudoin, 301-762-2143, ext. 124

Religious Education Registration 2019-2020

The St. Raphael Religious Education (SRRE) registration for 2019-2020 is now open. Classes will begin September 15. SRRE offers continuing faith formation for all children and teens, as well as preparation for sacraments. Each year of faith formation is designed to deepen relationships with Jesus and his Church through focus on what we believe, the celebration of sacraments, how we pray, and how we live. We look forward to having all our SRRE children and teens back in September, and we are eager to welcome new families. SRRE registration is completed online through the parish website. Note that you will need your parish envelope number, as well as the location and date of your child's baptism. Contact our office if you have any questions.

Tuition:

One child - \$125
Two children - \$200
Three or more children - \$250

Sacramental Fees:

First Eucharist in 2020 - \$75
Confirmation (8th grade) in 2020 - \$125
Confirmation (high school) in 2020 - \$150

Payment plan and reduced tuition are available for families who need financial assistance. Please contact Mary Beaudoin.

The SRRE Office also coordinates sacrament preparation for all children ages 7-18. This includes Baptism, Confirmation, Reconciliation, and Eucharist. Please contact Mary Beaudoin for information. Registration information is available at www.straphaels.org/religious-education or by contacting the SRRE office.

The Message of Jesus and the Gift of the Spirit

Jesus said to his disciples: "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." (John 20: 21). Pentecost marks the end of Eastertide with the joyful celebration of receiving the Holy Spirit. In today's First Reading, the disciples were gathered in prayer, frightened, the kind of Christians who keep to themselves, but they were awaiting the Holy Spirit according to God's promise. When the Holy Spirit came, they certainly had something to say!

God gives us the same Holy Spirit today, active and bearing fruit in us, though it can be easy to miss sometimes. Let's take a moment to identify moments when grace helped us to do something we could not do on our own. Perhaps it was as simple as the gift of peace in a moment of difficulty. Let's make a point of remembering these moments of grace and then show our gratitude by telling others what God does in our lives.

Catechists share the message of Jesus and the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit as they mentor young Catholics. For more information on becoming a catechist or aide, please contact Mary Beaudoin.

Confirmation

Teens preparing for Confirmation in spring 2020 are working on their Confirmation Service Projects. While serving others, students learn about Catholic Social Teaching:

- Life and Dignity of the Human Person
- Call to Family, Community, and Participation
- Rights and Responsibilities
- Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
- The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers
- Solidarity
- Care for God's Creation

Parents and students complete the Record of Service. Students write a reflection paper based on the questions provided. Please staple completed Record of Service to the reflection paper and turn in to the SRRE office. Forms can be downloaded from www.straphaels.org/confirmation-1.

First Eucharist

Completed *God's Gift Eucharist* and *We Give Thanks and Praise* workbooks are available for pick up at the SRRE office.

Rejoice and Be Glad: On the Call to Holiness in Today's World



In his apostolic letter *Gaudete et Exsultate* (in English, *Rejoice and Be Glad*), Pope Francis reminds us that we are all called to become saints. This week: Combat and Vigilance

The Christian life is a constant battle. We need strength and courage to withstand the temptations of the devil and to proclaim the Gospel. This battle is sweet, for it allows us to rejoice each time the Lord triumphs in our lives.

We are not dealing merely with a battle against the world and a worldly mentality that would deceive us and leave us dull and mediocre, lacking in enthusiasm and joy. Nor can this battle be reduced to the struggle against our human weaknesses and proclivities (be they laziness, lust, envy, jealousy or any others). It is also a constant struggle against the devil, the prince of evil.

We will not admit the existence of the devil if we insist on regarding life by empirical standards alone, without a supernatural understanding. It is precisely the conviction that this malign power is present in our midst that enables us to understand how evil can at times have so much destructive force. . . . In leaving us the Our Father, Jesus wanted us to conclude by asking the Father to "deliver us from evil." That final word does not refer to evil in the abstract; a more exact translation would be "the evil one." It indicates a personal being who assails us.

Hence, we should not think of the devil as a myth, a representation, a symbol, a figure of speech or an idea. This mistake would lead us to let down our guard, to grow careless and end up more vulnerable. The devil does not need to possess us. He poisons us with the venom of hatred, desolation, envy and vice. When we let down our guard, he takes advantage of it to destroy our lives, our families and our communities. [#158-161]

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for June

The Mode of Life of Priests: That priests, through the modesty and humility of their lives, commit themselves actively to a solidarity with those who are most poor.

Adult Faith Formation

suzanne.nelson2@gmail.com - 443-472-3730

AFF QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Come Holy Spirit, Come.

Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
On our dryness pour your dew;
Wash the stains of guilt away:

Bend the stubborn heart and will;
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray.

CONTINUING

Spring Bible Study

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

Thursdays – 7:30-9:00 PM – May 9 through June 27

Duffy Center (except for June 20-in the Library)

This study is a great foundation for others to come.

Invite your neighbors, come, and enjoy a *First Class DVD*,
discussion, great people, refreshments, and more.

BOOKS & LINKS

SPECIAL for Pentecost! View in your browser:

[https://www.facebook.com/wild.and.wonderful/
videos/277916619752067/?t=10](https://www.facebook.com/wild.and.wonderful/videos/277916619752067/?t=10)

Leisure, the Basis of Culture by Josef Piefer, 1963.

Christian Morality: In the Breath of God

by Russel B. Connors, Jr., 2002.

Leadership Roundtable – Online resources from an organization of laity, religious, and clergy working together to promote best practices and accountability in Church management, finances, communications, and human resource development in the U.S. <https://leadershiproundtable.org/what-we-do/our-resources/>

Becoming Catholic in a Time of Scandal. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/03/nyregion/converting-catholics-church-scandal.html>

FORMED - Sign up for FREE, just visit us here: <https://staphaels.formed.org>

OUR FACEBOOK GROUP

Our **St Raphael Church AFF** Facebook group has 89 members and continues to grow. You are welcome to join us. The purpose of the group is to:

Read and share posts about spirituality and current church issues

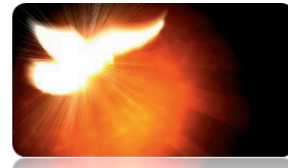
Ask questions and /or discuss various topics

Encourage and pray for one another

If you have a Facebook account, just search on

St Raphael Church AFF and apply to join. Or, ask someone who is already in the group to “invite” you through the Facebook app.

AFF 2019-2010



Thank you for all your suggestions for AFF Programs in the coming year.

Themes and needs continue to surface.

Themes:

- Catholic Identity in a time of crisis
- Meaning and Participation at Mass
- The Role of the Priest
- “Who can we trust?”
- Bible Studies: Morning and Evening
- Young Adults and the Church: *renew, upgrade, update, relate, reach out*
- *Ages and Stages of Family Life*

Needs:

- Marketing assistance
- Small Group Facilitators, Hosts
- Continuing *Bible Study, Science&Faith Lectures, Special Topics* (geared to specific age groups and/or events)
- New tables and chairs for the Duffy Center
- Resources for a Parish Mission

Your involvement is needed. Please contact

suzanne.nelson2@gmail.com to discuss.



Q: Ever wonder why the Holy Spirit is called a “dove”?

A: This mother bird is amazing!

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And the Word of God is even more amazing.

Psalm 36:7 How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

Psalm 57:1 Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me, for in you my soul takes refuge; in the shadow of your wings I will take refuge, until the destroying storms pass by.

Psalm 61:4 Let me abide in your tent forever, find refuge under the shelter of your wings.

Psalm 91:4 He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.

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