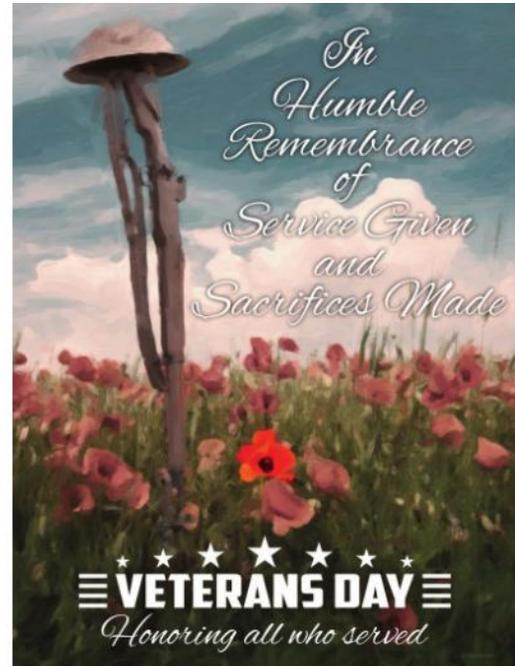
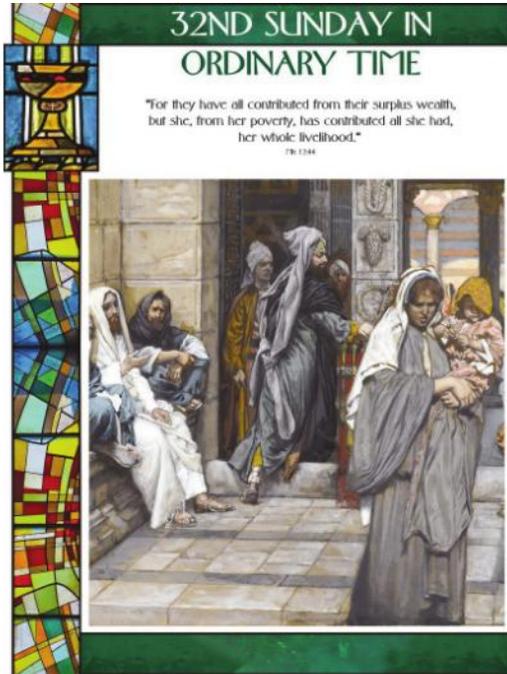


St. Raphael Catholic Church



1513 Dunster Road Rockville, Maryland 20854

November 7, 2021

**Please mail correspondence to the Parish Office
1592 Kimblewick Road, Rockville, MD 20854**

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

**Rev. Michael Salah, Pastor, ext. 112
Rev. William Wadsworth, Parochial Vicar, ext. 150
Rev. Thomas Morrow, Retired, ext. 128**

**Deacon Jose Carbonell, ext. 187
Deacon Richard Meyer, 202-365-0913
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 Lojaco, Assistant for Religious Education, ext. 123
Annalee McHugh, Youth Minister, 240-864-2519
Vince Natali, Dir. Of Music Ministries, 240-864-2532
Linda Poindexter, RCIA Coordinator, 240-864-2542
Elaine Salatto, Publications, Welcoming, 240-864-2513**

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 or you may register online at: <https://straphaels.org/parish-registration-form>
The Parish Wide Ministry Resource List can be found on our website on the Welcome tab or under Ministries, Social Responsibility, and Documents.

For Life Affirming Resources:
<https://adw.org/about-us/resources/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.

This weekend, November 6 & 7, 2021, the second collection will be for the Mission Cooperative Appeal. The missionaries supported by this appeal rely on financial support and prayers to share their witness of Christ's love to those in need. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this year's appeal and remember all missionaries in your prayers.

Readings for the Week of November 7, 2021

Sunday **Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**
1 Kgs 17:10-16; Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10;
Heb 9:24-28; Mk 12:38-44 or 12:41-44

Monday
Wis 1:1-7; Ps 139:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8, 9-10;
Lk 17:1-6

Tuesday **Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica**
Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9;
1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22

Wednesday **Memorial of Saint Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church**
Wis 6:1-11; Ps 82:3-4, 6-7; Lk 17:11-19

Thursday **Memorial of Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop**
Wis 7:22b—8:1; Ps 119:89, 90, 91, 130, 135, 175; Lk 17:20-25

Friday **Memorial of Saint Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr**
Wis 13:1-9; Ps 19:2-3, 4-5ab; Lk 17:26-37

Saturday **Memorial of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin**
Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9; Ps 105:2-3, 36-37, 42-43; Lk 18:1-8

Sunday **Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Dn 12:1-3; Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11;
Heb 10:11-14, 18; Mk 13:24-32

Mass Schedule and Intentions for the Week

Monday, November 8

6:30AM All Souls
9:00AM Luis Guerra (d)

Tuesday, November 9

6:30AM Vaz Family (d)
9:00AM All Souls

Wednesday, November 10

6:30AM All Souls
9:00AM Christy Fellows Hadwen (d)

Thursday, November 11

6:30AM All Souls
9:00AM Harry & Emma Williams (d)

Friday, November 12

6:30AM Angele Liverani (d)
9:00AM All Souls

Saturday, November 13

9:00AM Wilma & Hugo D'Alarcao (d)
5:00PM Fr. Tom Mary Rey Girardi (d)

Sunday, November 14

7:00AM	Fr. Tom	All Souls
8:30AM	Fr. Mike	Members of the Parish
10:00AM	Fr. Mike	Mary Anne Greene (d)
11:30AM	Fr. Tom	Julia Moreno (d)
1:00PM	Fr. Bill	Miguel Martinez (d)
6:00PM	Fr. Bill	Dr. James Rascher (d)

The priest schedule is subject to change.

***Live-streamed Masses:**

Daily, 6:30AM and Saturday, 9:00AM,
Sunday, 11:30AM, 1:00PM



Thank you, parishioners, who have made a gift to the 2021 Annual Appeal. We have seen an increase in donations this fall. **As of November 2**, we now stand at **437 donors**, and **89% of our parish goal with donations totaling 322,352.00 of the St. Raphael 362,100.00 goal.**

For parishioners who have not had an opportunity to make their gift, donations can also be made by visiting give.adw.org or you can scan the barcode.



Thank you for supporting the charitable works of our archdiocese through your Annual Appeal giving. If you have questions about how Annual Appeal funds are used, we encourage you to visit appeal.adw.org or email your inquiry to development@adw.org.

Please pray for the soul of

Edward C. Fechter, father of Tom Fechter
Mary Giordano Mecca, grandmother of Adam Bernstein
Alfonso Sanchez



Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Bulletin notices are due in writing ON FRIDAY, THE WEEK BEFORE THE published date. Notices may be emailed to: esalatto@straphaels.org. This bulletin was sent on November 2.

Vicar's Verbiage

Dear Friends,

Our society loves to come up with new things and products. Every day almost we hear of some new version of something: the latest iPhone, newest video game, newest car, ShamWow and so on. But before a new product can be introduced it's usually subjected to lots of tests and evaluations to make sure it does what it is supposed to. We all want the toilet plunger to work when the toilet is stopped up; or when the plane is landing, we hope that the little rubber tires will withstand the pressure of hundreds of thousands of pounds of stress.

Product testing is a necessary and important step in new development. And I was thinking about that a few days ago when I was organizing the ribbons in the Missal (the big book with prayers the priest uses for Mass). That book has a very specialized organization and construction. The basic organization of the sections hasn't changed very much in about 1200 years and it's perfectly suited to celebrate the Mass. It has all the information I need to say the prayers that are required, and to figure out which feast day to use and where to go in case I need additional prayers not written out in another section.

I was thinking about the fact that our faith is kind of like that. It's something that has been tested for more than two thousand years under all different types of conditions and stresses. The faith has been taken to every part of the world, the Gospel preached in hundreds of languages, Masses celebrated in jungles, on mountaintops, in palaces, in huts, on ships, in locked rooms because of persecution. The faith has been the source of hope and joy for countless millions and hasn't changed at all even though the packaging looks a little flashier than it did a while ago.

The message of Jesus is just as important now as it was one hundred years ago, or five hundred and will be five hundred years in the future. The certitude of the Catholic Church gives me confidence that what I see in the Church is the truth and the "product" is what it says it is. How beautiful that we have something that has been tested for so long and found still to be life-giving.

No matter what comes our way or what situation we find ourselves in, we can have the assurance that our Faith is true and that the message of Jesus is being proclaimed. Don't worry if there's a negative review here or there, this product has been refined over centuries so it won't break or wear out. 100% guaranteed.

Fr. Bill

Adults -

*Do you want to learn more about the Catholic Church? Or even about becoming a Catholic?
"No Strings Attached!"*

We want to help you and will work out a way to do that!

Contact Linda Poindexter

240-864-2542

lpindexter@straphaels.org

Our Lady of Fatima ✓

Our Lady of Lourdes ✓

Our Lady of Reconciliation ??? Who???

In his goodness and mercy, God has allowed His Blessed Mother, Mary, to appear to many people in different places on earth to warn us of coming evils and how to pray and reform our lives. We know of many of these apparitions. But do you know who Our Lady of Reconciliation is? Where did she appear and to whom? What was her message? Why does Fr. Bill think it's important for us to know about her?

**Come hear Fr. Bill
speak about**

Our Lady of Reconciliation

**November 18, 7:00 PM
in the Parish Library**

All parishioners are welcome.

Teams of Our Lady

We are thinking of forming a new Catholic couples group, Teams of Our Lady here at St. Raphael's. The group would meet monthly at members' homes to have dinner, pray, and discuss how to best live a Catholic marriage. Kindly contact Fr. Tom Morrow for more info. morrowt@adw.org or adw.org, or text at 240-426-5589.



**Volunteers
are key!**

The Usher Ministry is in need of volunteers for all weekend masses. Duties and responsibilities currently include ensuring an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion brings the Eucharist to parishioners who are not able to comfortably or safely walk the communion line, safeguarding the offertory and special collections after mass, general tidying of the pews, and being the welcoming sign to the faithful assembled for worship.

The Ministry of Hospitality is truly a service to the Church and is a great opportunity to serve with very little time commitment required. This is an ideal ministry for families to serve together. Please contact Terry Salsgiver at 301-437-2018 or tsalsgiver@comcast.net.

A Synodal Church, in announcing the Gospel, “journeys together” St. Raphael Parish Questionnaire

The entire Catholic Church is called to participate in the upcoming Synod of Bishops! This Synod is entitled: “For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission.

Pope Francis has called the entire People of God to journey together! This Synod is not just another meeting with oral presentations and written reports. This Synod is a process of journeying together by listening, dialoguing, praying, discerning and making decisions together for the purpose of proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

This Synod is a unique gift for our local Church. It is a gift of time—a chance to step back and reconnect with our parish. It is an opportunity to invite people not only back to Sunday Mass but back to parish life. This invitation to parish life starts with listening. Listening to each other’s joys, hopes, sorrows and anxieties. The Synod is not about changing doctrine or church structures, but rather encountering each other as brothers and sisters in Christ in a post-pandemic world. St. Raphael will host a listening session on Monday, November 15 at 7PM in the church. Please take a few minutes to answer a few questions about our parish. You are welcome to submit your answers no later than November 12, 2021 or bring your answers to the listening session. The answers will be summarized then shared in the Archdiocese, and finally make their way to Pope Francis. Thank you for your honesty and your time. It is appreciated.

Please send responses to:

Sally McClean: smcclean2021@gmail.com or Debbie Hynes: dehynes70@gmail.com

The survey can also be found at: <https://adw.org/2021-2023-synod-survey-for-individuals/>

• Please provide brief comments to the Synod’s Foundational Question

A Synodal Church, in announcing the Gospel, “journeys together.” How is this “journeying together” happening today in the Church? How is the Holy Spirit inviting you to “journey together” with the Church? Where do you hear the voice of the Holy Spirit calling you closer to the Church?

• Please provide brief comments to the Synod’s Core Question 1: Listening

How is God speaking to you through the voices that are in your life? How is God speaking to you through voices we sometimes ignore, including those on the peripheries? What space is there in your life to listen to the voices on the peripheries of the Church, especially cultural groups, women, the disabled, those who experience poverty, marginalization, or social exclusion?

• Please provide brief comments to the Synod’s Core Question 2: Speaking Out

What enables or hinders you from speaking up courageously, candidly, and responsibly in the Church and society? What space is there our parishes for the voice of people, including active and inactive members of our faith?

• Please provide brief comments to the Synod’s Core Question 3: Sharing Responsibility For Our Common Mission and Sharing Authority and Participation

How are you able to participate in the mission of the Church to proclaim the Gospel? What hinders you from being active in your parish? How is authority or governance exercised in your local parish and in the Church?

• Please provide brief comments to the Synod’s Core Question 4: Discerning and Deciding

How does your parish use the methods of listening and speaking (consultation) to make decisions? How does your parish promote participation in decision-making within the hierarchical structures of the Church? Does the decision-making methods of your parish help you to listen to all members of the community, including those who are on the peripheries of parish life?

• Please provide brief comments to the Synod’s Core Question 5: Celebration

How does prayer and liturgical celebrations, especially Sunday Mass, inspire and guide you? How does your prayer life and celebration of the Mass inspire and inform your personal decisions and decisions? How does the parish invite all Catholics, including cultural communities, youth, families and persons with disabilities and their families, into the active life of the parish, especially Sunday Mass?

Thanksgiving Blessing Baskets



Thanksgiving Sharing '21

The St. Martin's/St. Raphael's Twinning Committee will again be collecting food donations to go to needy families in the neighborhoods around our Twin Parish, St. Martin's in N.E. Washington, D.C.

Two food collection dates: **November 14 and 21** from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Volunteers (all masked) will collect food and **Giant and Walmart gift cards**. Volunteers will be located on either side of the church. *Please bring items **ONLY on these dates.***

Blessing Baskets are nonperishable food items for families to cook their own Thanksgiving dinners, along with a gift card to purchase a turkey:

- Canned Vegetables (corn or green beans)
- Canned Sweet Potatoes
- Canned Turkey Gravy or Packaged Dry Gravy Mix
- Boxed Stuffing Mix (no bags please)
- Boxed Instant Mashed Potatoes
- Rice (1 to 2 lb packages)
- Corn Bread Mix
- Canned Cranberry Sauce
- Canned Fruit (peaches, pears, fruit cocktail, applesauce)
- Cake Mix with Can of Frosting
- Jarred Baby Food (meat, vegetable, starch and cereals)
- \$25 Giant or Walmart Gift Card**

Join Our Team!!

If you are interested in helping to support this event, we are welcoming volunteers for a variety of tasks (collect donations, drive food down to St. Martins, and sort the food). **Please contact Steve Caramanico at steve.caramanico@gmail.com or Carolyn Tyc and Jeff Duncel at tyc1dunc3@aol.com.**

School News

NOVEMBER 7, 2021

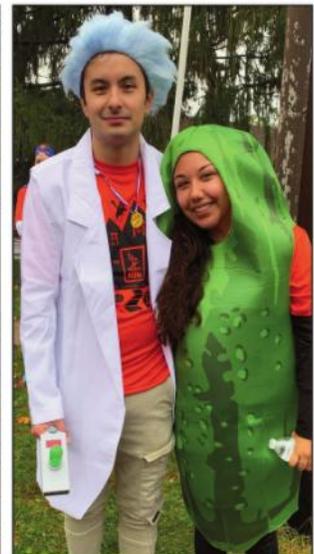
A peek behind our classroom doors



Angels on the Run



Happy to be back in person for our 5K, Angels on the Run! It was a perfect day. The Cherub Trott kicked off the morning, followed by our 1 Mile, and the 5K finale. Geoff Doody finished 1st with his wife, Meghan coming in 1st for the ladies. A great day was had by all!



www.straphaelschoolmd.org | www.srnsmd.org |    @SRRockville



Those Remembered at the Bereavement Mass 2021

Rosalina Aleman
Nidia Atkins
Bridget Barry
James Willard Beaudoin
Robert Beardall
Nancy Garcia Blanco-Bertolo
Richard Bianchi
Pauline "Polly" Bieszczad
Thomas R. Buchanan
Rosemarie L. Buckley
Louise Burley
Roberta Burley
Thomas William Brennan
E. Austin Carlin
Elisa Viviana Casaperalta
Joseph G. Chamandy, Sr.
Jerry Czecha
Jeffrey Loberiza Chatterjje
Carmela Ciccarello
Mildred Cornue
Priscilla Critser
Betty Jean Czarapata
Adriana Osio de Chapparo
Nicolasa Perez de Romo
David R. Dickinson
Patricia Ann Dougherty
Dr. Alex Dromerick
Patricia Dwyer
Khammone Emanivong
Gladys Marina Escobar Fuentes
Gertrude D. Frekko
Larry & Dorothy Gagne
John Gallagher
Michael Glynn
Carlos A. Garcia-Hidalgo
Stephen Daniel Gardella
Louise McCormick Geiss
Mary Rey Girardi
Catherine Mary (Kitty) Gleavy
Rosemary Estelle Glynn
Stanley Gurda
Leoncio Gutierrez
Gina Greco
Loring Elwood Hawkins
Maeve Catherine Hetherington
Joseph Ihsan
Edward Daniel Jordan
Joan Kelly
John Kroger
Wesley A. LaClair
Nancye Anne Launais
Ruby Lee
John Francis Lucey
Ellen Mackey

Mary Ellen Mahoney
Louise Jansen Malanoski
Patricia Marshall
Miguel Eduardo Martinez
José Luis Martin
Edward Joseph McCormick
Irene (Mercy) Metherate
Brenda Meyer
Tomás Carlos Miller-Sanbria
Maria Cristina Montes
Caritas Ndikumana
James Francis O'Donnell
John Ortiz
Carmen Sia Palmaira
Dr. Mary Parker
Patrick Joseph Peyton
Melba Polanco
Kathleen Powell
Maria de Conceica Ferreira Ramos
Dr. James J. Rascher
Barbara Reutemann
Sélica Rinaldi
Earl Robert Risch
Fausto Vocal Rodriguez
Lucille Bauman Ronan
Louis Alfredo Sanchez, Jr.
Greg Sigler
Dr. Marie Therese Smith
Noel Smith
Joseph (Kun Bok) Son
Elizardo Sotomayor
Lura A. Serrano
Helen Swartz
Agnes Tablada
Ned Topcuoglu
Porfirio Torres
Richard Trumka
Joseph Vassallo
Eduardo Cortez Velez
Francoise Vogel
Ho-Sheng (Simon) Wang
Gloria Delores Wellington
Milagro Martinez Welter
Maureen Weyers
Lois JoAnn Witham
William J. Wright
Connie Zafis
Henriette Jeanette Zegers

The Lord is
kind and
merciful.

St. Raphael Honor Roll

Please pray for those serving in our armed forces, those wounded in body and spirit, 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
Captain Julia Timm Intili, USAF
Jake Klosowski, USNA
LT COL Todd Lennon, USAF
Captain Frank Lowery, USN

Commander Mike McNally, USN
Charles McTavish, USA
LT Zachary Poindexter, USN
2LT Dan Quackenbush
1LT Will Quackenbush, USA
2LT Benedict Ray, USMC
LT Paul Schappner, USN
LT James Sheets (USN)
2nd LT Andrew Valentine USMA
LT Kenneth Yale, USAF





Faith Formation

Religious Education
 mbeaudoin@straphaels.org
 202-294-7697

First Penance and First Eucharist 2022 Meeting Notes

For those families who missed the First Penance meeting on October 27, the Powerpoint presentation is now available. Please pick up your Reconciliation and Eucharist folder at the religious education office. This week families are completing chapter 1 in the Reconciliation workbook. First Penance/Reconciliation is scheduled for Wednesday, February 2, and Saturday, February 12, 2022. The large group First Communion Masses are scheduled for May 7, 2022 at 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM with Saturday, April 30, as an alternate date (Mass at 11:00 AM).

Confirmation Year I and Year II Meeting Notes

For those families who missed the Confirmation Year I or Confirmation Year II meetings during the first two weeks of October, the Powerpoint presentations are now available. Please contact the SRRE office to receive a link to the presentations. The Confirmation Retreat (Year II) will be held at St. Raphael on Saturday, November 13. (The registration/permission form is overdue.) Confirmation Masses are scheduled for May 21, 2022 at 10:30 AM and 1:00 PM

Religious Education and Sacrament Calendar

November 7-8	SRRE Classes Resume
November 13	Confirmation Retreat
December 26-27	No SRRE Classes
January 2-3	SRRE Classes resume
January 16-17	No SRRE Classes
January 23-24	SRRE Classes Resume
February 20-21	No SRRE Classes
February 27-28	SRRE Classes Resume
February 2 and 12	First Penance
March 19	First Eucharist Family
Retreat Morning	
April 10-11, 17-18	No SRRE Classes
April 24-25	SRRE Classes Resume
May 7	First Communion Masses, 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM
May 9	last day of SRRE Classes
May 21	Confirmation Masses at 10:30 AM and 1:00 PM

St. Raphael Religious Education (SRRE)

SRRE offers ongoing 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, why we celebrate the sacraments, how we pray, and how we live.

If you have not yet registered your child, please do so now. Find information and the registration link at <https://www.straphaels.org/religious-education>. Tuition and sacramental fees can be paid through Faith Direct or by check. Please make your check payable to "St. Raphael RE" and bring or send it to our office (St. Raphael Religious Ed., 1513 Dunster Road, Rockville MD 20854). Please put your child's name on the memo line of your Faith Direct payment or your check. Payment plan and reduced tuition are available for families who need financial assistance. Please contact Mary Beaudoin.

All SRRE students, catechists, parents, and others (age 2 and above) are required to wear well-fitting face coverings in St. Raphael buildings, regardless of vaccination status. We do not allow any indoor eating or drinking during SRRE sessions.

Giving from Our Need

Remember to make time to reflect on this Sunday's Scripture readings at home: <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/110721.cfm>
 Key Passage: Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury.

For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on." (Mark 12:43-44)

. . . and then have a family sharing time on the questions below

Adult: What are you willing to give out of love for God that would be a hardship for you?

Child: What would you be willing to give up for someone else?

An Encyclical for All Brothers and Sisters

In his most recent encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti*, Pope Francis invites us to consider how we are called "in the face of present-day attempts to eliminate or ignore others" to respond "with a new vision of fraternity and social friendship that will not remain at the level of words." This week we continue with Chapter 3: Envisaging and Engendering an Open World."



Promoting the Moral Good

112. Nor can we fail to mention that seeking and pursuing the good of others and of the entire human family also implies helping individuals and societies to mature in the moral values that foster integral human development. The New Testament describes one fruit of the Holy Spirit (Gal 5:22) as *agathosyne*; the Greek word expresses attachment to the good, pursuit of the good. Even more, it suggests a striving for excellence and what is best for others, their growth in maturity and health, the cultivation of values and not simply material wellbeing. A similar expression exists in Latin: *benevolentia*. This is an attitude that "wills the good" of others; it bespeaks a yearning for goodness, an inclination towards all that is fine and excellent, a desire to fill the lives of others with what is beautiful, sublime and edifying.

113. Here, regrettably, I feel bound to reiterate that "we have had enough of immorality and the mockery of ethics, goodness, faith and honesty. It is time to acknowledge that light-hearted superficiality has done us no good. Once the foundations of social life are corroded, what ensues are battles over conflicting interests." Let us return to promoting the good, for ourselves and for the whole human family, and thus advance together towards an authentic and integral growth. Every society needs to ensure that values are passed on; otherwise, what is handed down are selfishness, violence, corruption in its various forms, indifference and, ultimately, a life closed to transcendence and entrenched in individual interests.

-Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti* #112, #113

Caring for God's Creation – A Plan That Calls for Solidarity

Five years ago, Pope Francis released his encyclical *Laudato Si'* (Care for Our Common Home). Many dioceses, parishes, parish schools, and families have embraced the call of integral ecology, a key concept in *Laudato Si'*. Integral ecology means that "everything is closely related" and that "today's problems call

for a vision capable of taking into account every aspect of the global crisis." *Laudato Si': Embarking on a Seven-Year Journey Promoting an Integral Ecology in the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington*

contains easy to advanced ways for us to exercise stewardship over God's creation. Find the link to the plan at www.adw.org The plan names seven markers that help to measure the implementation of *Laudato Si'*. The third marker is

3. **Ecological Economics:** The Archdiocese of Washington is home to over 3 million people and encompasses a land area of over 2,000 square miles with 1,200 miles of ecologically critical shoreline. The Archdiocese is home to 655,000 Catholics. Washington, D.C. and Maryland are home to many governmental and non-profit organizations, and industries (health, technology, agriculture, etc.) vital for our economy. The archdiocese has tried to respond to environmental injustices suffered by those who are poor or vulnerable while also integrating Catholic social teaching into our economic decisions. Next week we will look at efforts in Housing, Food, and Green Space.



Please Help Save Lives in Bethesda!

The Bethesda 40 Days for Life campaign ends with the following two events in November. Please join us in a public witness for the sanctity of life:

Closing Vigil on Sunday, November 7th from 2-3PM on the public sidewalk outside the Carhart clinic at the Wildwood Medical Center, 10401 Old Georgetown Road in Bethesda.

Mass for Life and Eucharistic Procession on Saturday, November 20th at 8AM. We will celebrate Mass in the neighborhood behind the clinic thanks to a generous couple who is offering us their backyard. If you would like to attend, please email jill.gadwood@gmail.com, for the exact address.

Weekly Prayer Vigil

St. Raphael's supports the weekly prayer vigil that occurs every Monday from 9:00 – 11:00 AM at the same location. This effort is one of the main prolife efforts in Washington, D.C. Leroy Carhart is one of the only abortionists in the country who performs abortions during the entire nine (9) month term, and has killed or seriously injured numerous women, including two in May 2020. This prayer vigil seeks to inform the public of the evil taking place in Bethesda and includes signs showing the victims of abortion and the abortionist.

UPDATE ON FEDERAL LAWSUITS TO END LATE TERM ABORTION PRACTICE

Come November 10th at 7:30PM to the Parish Library to hear a prolife speaker outline the journey of efforts to take down infamous late term abortionist Carhart in Bethesda! Maryland is one of eight states that have no gestational limits on abortion. In May 2020 two women from out of state suffered severe and life threatening injuries requiring emergency surgeries to save their lives as a result of late term abortions at Carhart's clinic. The update to their lawsuit is exciting and hopeful. You won't want to miss this exciting evening! We believe God has been working through all of us to bring an end to this late term abortion facility.

Advent Giving Tree—needs a Team to continue in 2022! Diana and Linda would welcome two new volunteers to work alongside them this year.



Please consider volunteering for this wonderful ministry! Email Diana Grimm at rgrimm1015@aol.com to volunteer.

The Advent Giving Tree is Virtual for 2021!

We have 1350 Advent Giving Tree "VIRTUAL" tags!

Due to the pandemic, the 2021 Advent Giving Tree is going virtual again this year. The need continues to be high and we know that our generous parishioners will be happy for the opportunity to help the wonderful organizations that we support annually at Christmas.

Please purchase any number of **\$25 TARGET or WALMART Gift Cards** and get them to us by **DECEMBER 11, 2021**, so that they can be distributed before the holiday.

There are two ways you can do this:

- Bring gift cards in an envelope labeled "Advent Giving Tree" to **St Raphael's Parish Office** located behind the church, on Kimblewick Road. If the office is closed, please place the envelope in the mail slot by the door.

OR

- Mail gift cards to:

St Raphael's Church
Attn: Eileen Kutchak/Advent Giving Tree
1513 Dunster Road
Rockville, MD 20854

As in past years we will be supporting: St Martin of Tours Church in DC, Dorothy Day Shelter, Mission of Mercy, Interfaith Works Women Center, St Ann's Center, Children Hospital-Oncology Unit, Christ House DC and the Betty Krahnke Center.

In addition to these organizations, we will also continue to support our **ANGEL GIFTS** recipients. You will be able to support these organizations by making online donations through their websites:

- Gabriel House: www.lovegn.org
- Little Sisters of the Poor: www.littlesistersofthepoorwashingtondc.org
- Montgomery Hospice: www.montgomeryhospice.org

If you have any questions or concerns, please email or call: Diana Grimm at rgrimm1015@aol.com or (301) 762-3808
Linda Trinh at lindamtrinh@gmail.com or (301) 279-0838





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