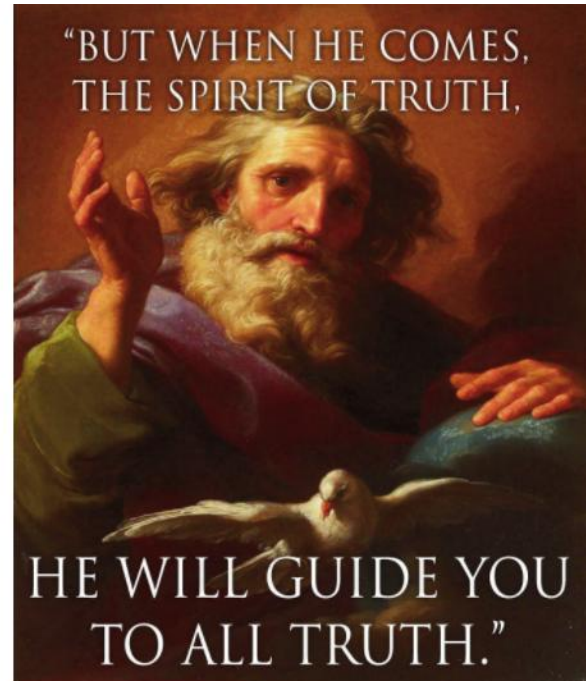
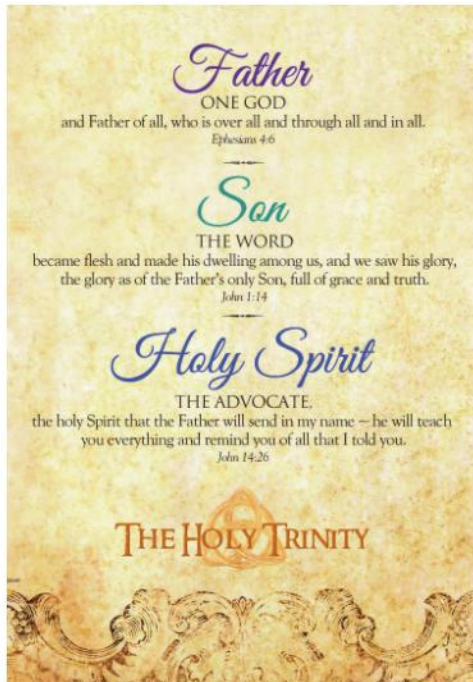


St. Raphael Catholic Church



1513 Dunster Road Rockville, Maryland 20854

June 12, 2022

**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 Lojano, 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

Abuse isn't love. Help is available 24/7 on the National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)

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
Parish Library Thursday: 9:30 AM

Benediction:

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

Miraculous Medal Novena:

Divine Mercy Chaplet: Tuesday, 7:30PM
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.

Switch to eGiving this summer.

Online donations through Faith Direct help sustain our parish ministries and keep our offertory consistent during the busy summer vacation months. If you make the switch today, you'll be giving steady, consistent support to the parish ministries you care about most in the months ahead - even if you're out of town during summer weekends.

Visit faith.direct/MD34. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family.

God Bless You,
Father Mike Salah

**On Thursday, June 16,
Eucharistic Adoration
will be held in the Parish Library.**

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 16
6:15PM IN THE PARISH LIBRARY.**

Unite with parishes throughout The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington as we anticipate the Ordination of our Priests on June 18. This year's Ordinandi:

FOR THE PRIESTHOOD

Deacon Gerald Andrews
Deacon Ryan Braam
Deacon Mattia Cortigiani
Deacon Carlos Rodrigo de Gutiérrez
Deacon Peter Mlynarczyk
Deacon James Morgan
Deacon Grzegorz Okulewicz
Deacon Thomas Robertson
Deacon Kyle Vance
Deacon Alexander Wyvill

There are four spaces available for Father Salah's trip to the Holy Land, September 22-26.

Please email rtemmaus@gmail.com or call 203-946-0322 if you are interested in going on this wonderful trip. The deadline is June 16.

Mass Schedule and Intentions for the Week

Monday, June 13 St. Anthony of Padua

6:30AM C. T. Thomas (d)
9:00AM Intercession of the Blessed Mother

Tuesday, June 14

6:30AM Phil Koh
9:00AM Bruce Papendick (d)

Wednesday, June 15

6:30AM Jody Bosnick (d)
9:00AM Betty Rendlemer (d)

Thursday, June 16 Exposition will be held in Parish Library today.

6:30AM Meyer & Silverman Families (d)
9:00AM Joseph Patrick Gorman (d)

Friday, June 17

6:30AM Miguel Martinez (d)
9:00AM John J. Manfreda (d)

Saturday, June 18

9:00AM Jose C. Alvano (d)
5:00PM Fr. Bill Edward Janus (d)

Sunday, June 19

7:00AM Fr. Bill Alexander Aino (d)
8:30AM Fr. Bill Dr. Edward Zech (d)
10:00AM Fr. Tom Loring Hawkins (d)
11:30AM Fr. Bill Paul Saah (d)
1:00PM Fr. Bill Members of the Parish
6:00PM Fr. Tom Warren Brown (d)

The priest schedule is subject to change.

Live-streamed Masses:

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

Go to website:

www.straphaels.org and link to YouTube.

Baptisms

El Roi Jidenna Nlemadim May 28
Lillian Elise Plikaitis June 4

Bulletin notices are due in writing ON THURSDAY, THE WEEK BEFORE THE published date. Notices may be emailed to: esalatto@straphaels.org. This bulletin was transmitted June 7.

Please pray for the soul of

Dolores Pope mother of Catherine Pope
Ernesto Hernandez-Cata, father of Claudia Hernandez-Halper



**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.**

Vicar's Verbiage

Dear Friends,

Since there's been a few questions lately about what exactly I will be doing at my new parish in Issue, I thought I would take this opportunity to write a little about the different types of offices within the Church.

I wrote a while ago about the role of the bishop, they are the pastor for the diocese, which is for us a geographic territory that he has spiritual authority over. The outward structure of the Church with bishops governing dioceses was in place relatively early and followed the secular Roman Imperial system reformed by the Emperor Diocletian, except that the diocese in his time (what we would call a State or a Province) was governed by a vicar. The vicars were appointed by the emperor to control a specific area on behalf of the emperor. It's the origin of where we get calling the pope the "vicar of Christ." The pope heads the Church on earth by the authority of Jesus.

Later on, the Roman system was reformed and the provinces ceased to be called dioceses and then even later the whole system collapsed with the invasion of the barbarians. However, the Church kept the same names and system and its what we still use today.

Over time, as the Church grew in size and complexity it became apparent that a smaller unit would be needed than a diocese and so that's when the parish as we know it emerged. When it became too difficult for the bishop to govern each of them individually, he started appointing priests to oversee the local communities.

The name in Latin for the head of the local community is *parochus* which comes from ancient Greek and means "neighbor." The more common term is *pastor* which is Latin for "shepherd" and comes from the word "to feed" in Latin.

The pastor is the one designated by the bishop to guide and feed the People of God entrusted to his care in a particular parish or smaller geographic territory. And interestingly enough, the *Code of Canon Law* (the book of laws that governs the operation of the Church throughout the world) says that this includes all the people who are Christian within the territory, not just the Catholics.

When the pastor of a parish is reassigned or is somehow incapacitated the bishop can appoint a parochial administrator to fill in for him. They are basically like a pastor in their responsibilities and duties but they do not have the right of stability (pastors in our part of the Church have terms of office which is usually 6 years with an option to renew for another 6, but it can be extended if the bishop desires), and also an administrator cannot do anything which would harm the fabric of the parish, which means basically the administrator can't come in and immediately sell all the property and fire all the staff.

An administrator is an inherently temporary office but it does allow for some leeway in case the assignment doesn't work out or if the pastor is sick for a while. In the Archdiocese our custom is to appoint parochial vicars as administrators first since it is quite a change and a whole new set of responsibilities and also ensures that there will be some stability in the parish until things settle down with the move.

top of next column

Sometimes parishes will also have parochial vicars in them. These are priests who are given the task of assisting the pastor in his role of feeding the flock in the parish. In some places they are called "associate pastors" but around here we use the more specific term that's found in the *Code*. Usually, parochial vicars are assigned to parishes that are larger or have a diverse population or specialized ministries to allow the priests to share the work and be more present to the people. They can be moved around more easily and mainly function to help the pastor in his office.

Fr. Bill



Please join the Spanish Community for the Corpus Christi celebration and procession thru the parking lot of the church June 19th after the 1:00PM Mass. We will be praying the Rosary bilingually and at the end there will be Exposition and blessing with the Holy Sacrament in the church.

Quo Vadis Camp, for high school age young men, will be held at Mount Saint Mary's Seminary from Sunday, July 31, to Wednesday, August 3, 2022. For four days, high school age young men who desire to grow in holiness will have an opportunity for Mass, prayer, and Eucharistic adoration, as well as time for recreation, sports, and fraternity. Quo Vadis Camp is run by priests and seminarians of the Archdiocese of Washington. Bus transportation will be available. Please register now at <https://dcpriest.org/quo-vadis-camp-2022>. If you have questions, please contact the Office of Priest Vocations at vocations@adw.org or call 202-636-9020.



Our former parochial vicar, Fr. Dan Gallagher is headed out to join a missionary religious order: the Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity (SOLT)! Before he drives away to Texas in early July, come say hello on Monday, June 20 as he celebrates the 9 AM Mass here at St. Raphael, with conversation following in the Parish Library. For more information on all of this, including two other chances to say hello in Montgomery County, go to

<https://wp.me/pGq5x-USO>.

THE POPE'S INTENTION FOR JUNE

We pray for Christian families around the world; may they embody and experience unconditional love and advance in holiness in their daily lives.

CONTACTING THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council serves the St. Raphael community by advising the Pastor on matters of concern to parishioners. If you would like the Council to consider a particular issue, please feel free to send an email message to: parishcouncil@straphaels.org.

Religious Education Registration

Mary Beaudoin, 202-294-7697

Religious Education - Registration Opens June 15!

Registration for 2022-2023 St. Raphael Religious Education (SRRE) opens on June 15. Please find the registration link at <https://www.straphaels.org/religious-education>. Early registration will end on August 15.

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. We look forward to having all our SRRE children and teens back in September, and we are eager to welcome new families to our faith formation program. If your family was not part of SRRE last year, please contact Mary Beaudoin to be included in email communications.

SRRE sessions will begin on September 18 and 19 (with orientation sessions on September 11 and 12). We plan to offer the following schedule.

Sundays, 7:05-8:20 PM – grades 3-8
Mondays, 4:30-5:45 PM – grades kindergarten-grade 8
Mondays, 7:00-8:15 PM – grades 1-12
Family Catechesis – sessions on six Sundays at 4:30-5:45 PM

Family Catechesis includes group meetings for parents and classes for children once every five weeks. Parents teach their children at home for the four weeks in between meetings. Parents need to commit to spending an hour each week on faith formation with their child at home - in order to fulfill the minimum of 30 hours of instruction required by the Archdiocese of Washington.

Tuition during Early Registration:
One child - \$125
Two children - \$200
Three or more children - \$250

Sacramental Fees:
First Eucharist in Spring 2023 - \$75
Confirmation in Spring 2023 - \$75

The SRRE Office also coordinates sacrament preparation for all children ages 7-18. This includes Baptism, Confirmation, Reconciliation, and Eucharist. Please contact Mary Beaudoin, 202-294-7697, Director of Religious Education, for information.

Help Our Marriage

Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue, or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped many couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information or to register for the upcoming program beginning with a weekend on September 2 - 4, 2022, please visit: www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call (443) 400-7017, or email: 3015@retrouvaille.org

Mark your Calendar for a young adult presentation at St. Patrick's in Rockville, 4101 Norbeck Road

Joan of Arc, a play by St Therese of Lisieux, will be showing July 27th and 28th at St Patrick's Parish Center in Rockville! Performances begin at 7PM. The event is free!

St. Mary's Rockville Parish Pastoral Council

has been focused bringing current topics to the forefront for discussion. On **Tuesday, June 21 at 7:00 PM** in the school building, St. Mary's Parish 600 Veirs Mill Rd., Rockville, MD 20852, will host a talk: *What is Implicit Bias? Let's Talk about it!* Panelists include: Montgomery County Police Chief, Marcus Jones; City of Rockville Police Chief, Victor Brito; Montgomery County Branch NAACP Third Vice President, Cherri Branson; and Connolly School of the Holy Child Christian Service Coordinator Ogechi Akalegbere. A presentation will be offered by the panelists.

Discussion and Q & A will follow the talks. Please RSVP your attendance: stmaryrockville@yahoo.com or 301-424-5550.

In honor of Our Lady of Fatima's second apparition, June 13, 1917, The World Apostolate of Fatima, Archdiocese of Washington Division

"The Blue Army"

Invites you to **Rosary, Mass, Confession, Divine Mercy Chaplet, and Blessing** with St. Rafael Healing oil
Monday, June 13 at 1:00PM

in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel,
Basilica of the National Shrine, Michigan Ave, DC.
For more information call 301-595-1770

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje from September 11 to September 22, 2022, Spiritual Director: Fr. Scott Woods, Pastor, Sacred Heart Church, La Plata, Maryland. Price: \$2,375. "Today I call you to come closer to my Immaculate Heart". Come and experience incredible peace! Only 30 spaces available. For registration and more information please contact Vicky, Tel. 301-826-7014 or send an email to: vhschneider1@aol.com.

Mark your Calendar for August Mass and Blessing

Due to the priest transitions in July, the **next** Holy Mass and Blessing will be held Tuesday, August 2.

Angel Friends Needed at St. Raphael's

Gabriel Network empowers women to choose life for their babies. By forming a partnership through Angel Friend Teams with churches across Maryland and Washington, D.C., Gabriel Network also empowers churches to serve women in crisis pregnancies.

Angel Friend Teams are trained volunteers from local churches who accompany women facing a crisis pregnancy through their pregnancy and beyond. Angel Friends and their churches can help with the Practical, Emotional, and Spiritual Support needed for women to thrive. St. Raphael's Angel Friend Team is currently serving several women in our area and would like to grow their team in order to serve even more women.

For more information on Gabriel Network please visit lovegn.org. If you are interested in serving in this very rewarding ministry, please contact St. Raphael's Angel Friend Coordinator, Carol DeGraba, at cdegraba@gmail.com.

Scripture Readings For the Week of June 12, 2022

Sunday The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity
Prv 8:22-31; Ps8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Rom 5:1-5; Jn 16:12-15

Monday Memorial of Saint Anthony of Padua, Priest and Doctor of the Church
1 Kgs 21:1-16; Ps5:2-3ab, 4b-6a, 6b-7; Mt 5:38-42

Tuesday
1 Kgs 21:17-29; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 11 and 16; Mt 5:43-48

Wednesday
2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14; Ps 31:20, 21, 24; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday
Sir 48:1-14; Ps 97:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7; Mt 6:7-15

Friday
2 Kgs 11:1-4, 9-18, 20; Ps 132:11, 12, 13-14, 17-18; Mt 6:19-23

Saturday
2 Chr 24:17-25; Ps 89:4-5, 29-30, 31-32, 33-34; Mt 6:24-34

Sunday The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ
Gn 14:18-20; Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Lk 9:11b-17

\$2,255.00 has been given through June 7.....
Thank you for your contributions. Campaign runs to Father's Day.

Campaign will run from Mother's Day (May 8) to Father's Day (June 19) 2022



Ways to Give

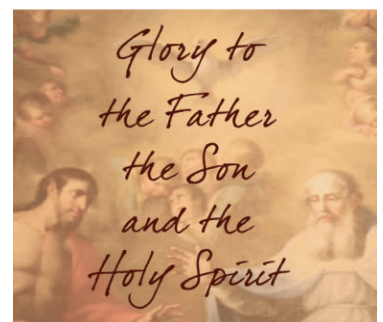
1. Go to St. Raphs's Faith Direct: www.faithdirect.net. Church code MD34
<https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/MD34>
2. Go to St. Raphs's Website: About, Support Us, Shady Grove Baby Bottle Campaign
<https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/MD34>
3. Write a Check to Saint Raphael's with BBC in the memo

Help us save more lives! Your participation makes *all* the difference for a precious baby's life and a mother in need of love and support.

Your donations are essential for saving babies from abortion, parenting classes, pregnancy testing, ultrasound, material aid, and options counseling.

"Human life must always be defended from its beginning in the womb and must be recognized as a gift of God that guarantees the future of humanity."

-Pope Francis, National Family Week, August 6, 2013



School News

A peek behind our classroom

JUNE 12, 2022

The Bethesda Big Train picked St. Raphael School to be a Community Hero Of The Night.



This event was held at Cabin John Park, St. Raphael families gathered for a picnic and the first pitch by **Fr. Mike!**

PROOF →



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

Ready to Earn Your Wings?

Whether you are a company looking to build customer loyalty through repeated exposure to the 8,500 members of the St. Raphael community or a family wishing to support your child's school, your message will touch thousands through your Wings Multi-Event Sponsorship. Your investment in St. Raphael School makes such a difference in the lives of our students and in the growth of our school. A Wings Multi-Event Sponsorship provides SRS with a wonderful gift—the security of knowing that you are there for us throughout the year.



Main highlights include:

Premier sponsorship visibility and recognition at all SRS flagship events including: Golf classic, Angels on the Run, Spring Soiree, drama production, Girls' Night Out.

Large customized banner, featuring your logo and company/group/individual name, hung in the rafters of the Trumpet Room (gymnasium) with exposure to the community.

Social media promotion

Ads in event programs

Free admission to SRS events

Special recognition and increased visibility as Wings sponsors at all events.

Annual sponsorship: \$2,500

Additional details found on the school websites under the Support Us Tab.

Contact:

swoodward@straphaels.org

Morning Prayer with Dad



SRS Dads celebrated a special morning! Dads were invited to attend morning prayer and receive handmade gifts.



www.straphaelschoolmd.org | www.srnsm.org |    @SRSRockville

Charity Garage to Attic Sale

St. Raphael Church, Trumpet Room & School
1513 Dunster Road, Rockville, MD

Saturday, June 25
8:00 AM – 1:00 PM

DONATION DROP OFFs:

- **Thurs, June 23 1:00 PM – 7:00 PM**
- **Friday, June 24 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM**

We offer **case-by-case** pick up of large items.
Scan QR code below or contact Rafael Ramirez
(202) 603-0353 or rafram23@yahoo.com

We accept donated items in good condition except:

- Mattresses (we will take bed frames and springs)
- Non-working electrical or mechanical items
- Rubber Tires
- Dirty Clothing
- Fuel (except in lawn-item gas tanks)
- Medical supplies
- Cribs, Baby Car Seats/Carriers

Clothing
Electronics
Furniture
Toys
Household
Goods
Appliances
And
Much More!

Sponsored by the
Knights of Columbus





A Prayer for the Feast of the Most Holy Trinity

I bind unto myself today
The strong Name of the Trinity,
By invocation of the same
The Three in One and One in Three.

I bind unto myself today
The virtues of the star lit heaven,
The glorious sun's life giving ray,
The whiteness of the moon at even,
The flashing of the lightning free,
The whirling wind's tempestuous shocks
The stable earth, the deep salt sea
Around the old eternal rocks.
I bind unto myself today

The power of God to hold and lead,
His eye to watch, His might to stay,
His ear to hearken to my need.
The wisdom of my God to teach,
His hand to guide, His shield to ward;
The word of God to give me speech,
His heavenly host to be my guard.

Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me.
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,

Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.
I bind unto myself the Name,
The strong Name of the Trinity,
By invocation of the same,
The Three in One and One in Three.

By Whom all nature hath creation,
Eternal Father, Spirit, Word:
Praise to the Lord of my salvation,
Salvation is of Christ the Lord.
Public Domain



Faith Formation

Religious Education - Registration Opens June 15!

SRRE offers ongoing faith formation for all children and teens, as well as preparation for sacraments. Early registration for the 2022-2023 year opens this week, on June 15! See page 4 for more information on classes.

Find the SRRE Registration link at our webpage: <https://www.straphaels.org/religious-education>

If you have questions about religious education or sacrament preparation for your child, please contact Mary Beaudoin, 202-294-7697, Director of Religious Education.

People of Faith, We Need You!

In today's Second Reading from Romans we hear:

"... hope does not disappoint,
because the love of God has been poured out into
our hearts
through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us."

In a way, this excerpt sums up the gift of faith that parents want to share with their children. St. Raphael Religious Education (SRRE) supports parents in the faith formation of their children. SRRE is looking for people of faith to serve as catechists, class aides, and office aides. Please contact Mary Beaudoin to learn more about becoming involved in the ministry of catechesis. Bring the gifts you have and share them with our young parishioners.

Child Protection Training

All adults who have contact with children or teens in parish programs must complete the Archdiocese of Washington child protection training program. The program includes the following: the Virtus Safe Environment training session, a volunteer application, fingerprinting, background check, and reading the Archdiocesan child protection policy booklet. The Archdiocese is currently offering the Virtus training session in-person and online. We encourage parents and other adults to complete child protection training now for future involvement in programs. Contact Pietro Lojacono in the SRRE office for information and forms to get started. Thanks!

Children's Liturgy of the Word – Resource for Summertime

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLW) is on summer break now, but there are resources available for parents to use with their children. Check out:

<https://www.catholicmom.com/sunday-mass-activities>

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/>

Also, we are looking for leaders to assist in CLW again beginning in September. For information, please contact Linsey at linsey.brault@gmail.com or Mary at mbeaudoin@straphaels.org or 202-294-7697.

Confirmation Year I

Confirmation I students 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

(Find more at the USCCB website.)

Parents help their child decide on service that focuses on the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. As the student completes the hours, they record them on the Record of Service sheet. Students then write a reflection paper based on the questions provided.

Once your service hours and reflection essay are completed, staple your completed Record of Service to your reflection paper and turn in to the SRRE office. Forms can be downloaded from www.straphaels.org/confirmation-1.

Confirmation Service Projects are due on September 1.

Continued next page

The Spirit of Truth

On this feast of The Most Holy Trinity, remember to make time to reflect on the Scripture readings at home. This Sunday's readings: <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/061222.cfm>

Key Passage: Jesus said, "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come." (Jn. 16:12-13a)

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

- Adults: In what difficult situation has the Holy Spirit helped you see more clearly?
- Kids: What kind of decision can the Holy Spirit help you with?

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 6: Dialogue and Friendship in Society and the section entitled "A New Culture."

The joy of acknowledging others

218. All this calls for the ability to recognize other people's right to be themselves and to be different. This recognition, as it becomes a culture, makes possible the creation of a social covenant. Without it, subtle ways can be found to make others insignificant, irrelevant, of no value to society. While rejecting certain visible forms of violence, another more insidious kind of violence can take root: the violence of those who despise people who are different, especially when their demands in any way compromise their own particular interests.

219. When one part of society exploits all that the world has to offer, acting as if the poor did not exist, there will eventually be consequences. Sooner or later, ignoring the existence and rights of others will erupt in some form of violence, often when least expected. Liberty, equality and fraternity can remain lofty ideals unless they apply to everyone. Encounter cannot take place only between the holders of economic, political or academic power. Genuine social encounter calls for a dialogue that engages the culture shared by the majority of the population. It often happens that good ideas are not accepted by the poorer sectors of society because they are presented in a cultural garb that is not their own and with which they cannot identify. A realistic and inclusive social covenant must also be a "cultural covenant," one that respects and acknowledges the different worldviews, cultures and lifestyles that coexist in society.

220. Indigenous peoples, for example, are not opposed to progress, yet theirs is a different notion of progress, often more humanistic than the modern culture of developed peoples. Theirs is not a culture meant to benefit the powerful, those driven to create for themselves a kind of earthly paradise. Intolerance and lack of respect for indigenous popular cultures is a form of violence grounded in a cold and judgmental way of viewing them. No authentic, profound and enduring change is possible unless it starts from the different cultures, particularly those of the poor. A cultural covenant eschews a monolithic understanding of the identity of a particular place; it entails respect for diversity by offering opportunities for advancement and social integration to all.

221. Such a covenant also demands the realization that some things may have to be renounced for the common good. No one can possess the whole truth or satisfy his or her every desire, since that pretension would lead to nullifying others by denying their rights. A false notion of tolerance has to give way to a dialogic realism on the part of men and women who remain faithful to their own principles while recognizing that others also have the right to do likewise. This is the genuine acknowledgment of the other that is made possible by love alone. We have to stand in the place of others, if we are to discover what is genuine, or at least understandable, in their motivations and concerns.

-Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti* #218, #219, #220, #221

Pope Francis' Prayer for Peace in Ukraine

Lord God of peace, hear our prayer!
Open our eyes and our hearts,
and give us the courage to say:
"Never again war!";
"With war everything is lost."

Instill in our hearts the courage
to take concrete steps to achieve peace.
Keep alive within us the flame of hope,
so that with patience and perseverance
we may opt for dialogue and reconciliation.
In this way may peace triumph at last.
Amen.

Marriage Moments

What sacrifice has your marriage called you to make for your beloved, i.e., moving, putting your career on hold, changing an annoying habit? How can you die (just a little) to your own needs today to give life to your spouse or children? Do it generously, not begrudgingly.

By Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net

Parenting Pointers

June 14 is flag day in the USA. Perhaps you already fly the flag proudly. Perhaps you sometimes feel discouraged about your country's lack of equality. Talk with your family about what makes you proud of your country and what would make it even better.

By Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net

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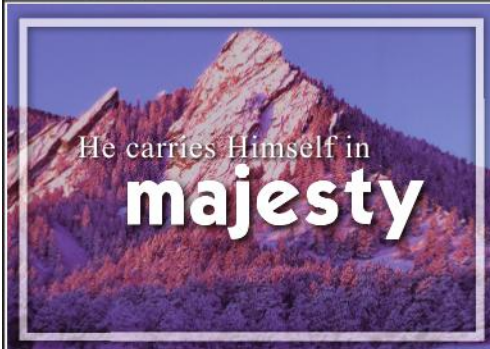
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