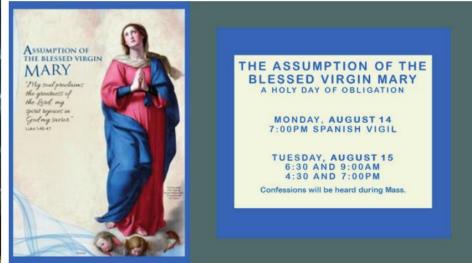
St. Raphael Catholic Church





1513 Dunster Road Rockville, Maryland 20854

August 13, 2023

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. Christian Huebner, Parochial Vicar, 301-762-2143, ext. 150

Email: huebnerc@adw.org

Rev. Thomas Morrow, Retired, ext. 128

Deacon Jose Carbonell, ext. 187
Deacon Richard Meyer, 202-365-0913
Deacon Jim O'Brien, obrien3@verizon.net
Deacon Frank Salatto, ext. 149

Mary J. Beaudoin, Dir. Of Religious Education, ext. 124
Teri Dwyer, Principal, ext. 121
Julie Cress, School Admissions, ext. 158 or jcress@straphaels. org
Luisa Duarte, Spanish Coordinator, 240-864-2565
Eileen Kutchak, Dir. of Parish Programming, ext. 110
Pietro Lojacono, Assistant for Religious Education, ext. 123
Annalee McHugh, Youth Minister, 240-864-2519
Vince Natali, Dir. Of Music Ministries, 240-864-2532
Krys Psurek, 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, (children), 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 Eileen Kutchak, 240-864-2510, 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.

The Rite of Christian Initiation, RCIA





We are in the RCIA Inquiry Become Stage. If you are thinking about joining the Catholic Church, or just looking for meaning in life, please join our meetings Sundays in August: 13, 20, 27, 9:45-11:15AM in

the youth center after the 8:30AM Mass. We will move from inquiry to catechism at the end of September 2023.

You can join RCIA at any time! To learn more about it, please call Krys Psurek, 240-864-2542 and leave a message. He will call you back. You can also check the latest RCIA announcements and schedule at St. Raphael web site www.straphaels.org, Faith Formation, RCIA.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT



Tuesdays at 6:45PM with Miraculous Medal Novena at 7:30 PM followed by Benediction.

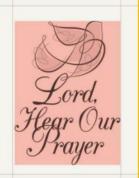
Thursdays following 9:00AM Mass with Benediction at 7:15PM

Holy Mass followed by

Healing Prayers

SEPTEMBER 5, 7:00 PM

Confessions will continue during Mass and Healing Prayers.





NO MARRIAGE IS BEYOND HOPE

The Retrouvaille marriage program is for couples with marital problems that want marriage help. Those who are considering marriage separation and those who are already separated or divorced are encouraged to consider the Retrouvaille Program. There is always hope of reviving our relationship.









Mass Schedule and Intentions for the Week Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time

Monday, August 14

6:30AM Lawrence Leong (d) 9:00AM Dr. Chia Ting Chen (d)

7:00PM Spanish Vigil Mass Members of the Parish

Tuesday, August 15 The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

6:30AM Lucy Ronan (d) 9:00AM Sofia Silva 4:30PM Cindy Fang 7:00PM Jennifer Kent (d)

Wednesday, August 16

6:30AM Nelly Salah (d) 9:00AM Dolores Lingren (d)

Thursday, August 17

6:30AM Anna Maria Cantarella (d) 9:00AM Walter Zeun (d)

Friday, August 18

6:30AM Lawrence Leong (d) 9:00AM Janine Caron (d)

Saturday, August 19

9:00AM Julia Timm (d) 5:00PM Fr. Mike James Doyle

Sunday, August 20

7:00AM Fr. Christian Members of the Parish 8:30AM Fr. John Maureen Weyers (d) 10:00AM Fr. Tom Barbara O'Connor (d) 11:30AM Fr. Mike Rose Victory (d) 1:00PM Fr. Christian Villanova Family (d)

6:00PM Fr. John For those who aided Elise-December

The priest schedule is subject to change.

Live-streamed Masses:

There will be daily live-streamed Masses, Sunday English and Spanish Masses. Go to website:

www.straphaels.org and link to YouTube.

Baptism:

Jowell Messiah Lemus—August 5

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 August 8.

Please pray for the soul of

Ann Hogan, mother of Ann Healy **Edith Thomas**

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.

Have you experienced shame and had feelings of sadness, regret or guilt after abortion or the use of the abortion pill?

You are not alone! Any woman, who has gone through an abortion, is invited to attend an Entering Canaan Day of Prayer and Healing on Saturday, October 14, 2023. You will find the Sacraments, a caring retreat team, a witness talk, and a non-judgmental atmosphere, to heal from this shame and other negative emotions that come after abortion. Exact location and participation is confidential, due to the personal nature of this experience. For more information, contact Project Rachel Ministry, sponsored by Catholic The Roman Archdiocese Washington: 301-982-2008. You are welcome to email, just remember that email is not a confidential means of communication hope@ adw.org

Usher Ministry - We need your help!
Please contact Terry Salsgiver at 301-4372018 or tsize:150%;

THE POPE'S INTENTION FOR AUGUST For World Youth Day

We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

Scripture Readings for the Week of August 13, 2023

Sunday Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a; Ps 85:9, 10, 11-12, 13-14; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33

Monday Memorial of Saint Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr

Dt 10:12-22; Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20; Mt 17:22-27

Tuesday Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Vigil: 1 Chr 15: 3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2; Ps 132: 6-7, 9-10, 13-14; 1 Cor 15:54b-57; Lk 11:27-28

Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Ps 45:10, 11, 12, 16; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56

Wednesday Memorial of St. Stephen of Hungary Dt 34:1-12; Ps 66:1-3a, 5 & 8, 16-17; Mt 18:15-20

Thursday

Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17; Ps 114:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt 18:21-19:1

Friday

Jos 24:1-13; Ps 136:1-3, 16-18, 21-22 & 24; Mt 19:3-12

Saturday

Jos 24:14-29; Ps 16:1-2a & 5, 7-8, 11; Mt 19:13-15

Sunday Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 56:1, 6-7; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15:21-28

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.





THE GREAT CATHOLIC BOOK SWAP

AT SAINT BERNADETTE CATHOLIC CHURCH

In the School Hall

Saturday, August 19th: 2:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Sunday, August 20th: 10:30 am - 2:30 pm

Monday, August 21st: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm (\$1 Fire Sale)

Have great Catholic books you'd like to pass along to someone interested in reading them?

Want to check out a collection of great Catholic books?

Join us for the Great Catholic Book Swap!

Saint Bernadette Book Swap How-To:

Fill up a bag or box with great Catholic books that you wish to pass on.

Spiritual reads, fiction by Catholic authors, prayer books, and saint biographies are all good examples of a *great Catholic book.*

Please, no school workbooks, magazines, pamphlets, or fliers.

Count your books!

1.

2.

3.

Those donating 20 or more books are asked to pay a \$5.00 buy-in fee to help off-set event costs. These donors will receive \$10.00 in book swap credits. Donors donating less than 20 books do not have to pay a buy-in and will receive \$5.00 in book swap credits.

Donors should scan the code to get their name on the Book Swap Credit List: Or visit:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0f4aa8aa2ca75-saint#/

This list of names will be posted at our check-out station and donors may redeem their credits towards their book selections.

Book donors may drop off cash or check to the Saint Bernadette rectory office or Venmo Jasmine Kuzner, DRE at @Jasmine-Kuzner after they have dropped off their book donation.

Drop off your book donation!

Book drop off is Sunday, July 30th thru Sunday, August 13th. Choose your drop off time and location:

Sunday, August 13—Last drop off date. See where to drop off below.

Friday-Sunday, between the last and first Mass of the day (approx. 7:00am-6:00pm) @ Saint Bernadette Church, 72 University Blvd. East, Silver Spring, MD, 20901

Look for the Book Swap Deposit receptacle at each location and drop off your books. Then, drop off your buy-in to the rectory office or send your Venmo payment.

DON'T HAVE BOOKS TO SWAP? THERE WILL BE BOOKS TO SHOP!

Most books will be priced at \$3, though some rare and valuable books may be priced for more. Anyone is welcome to browse the book swap and purchase books even if they do not have Book Swap Credits. Cash and Venmo will be accepted. On Monday, August 21st, the last day of our Book Swap will be a "Fire Sale" with the remaining books available for purchase at \$1.

QUESTIONS? EMAIL RELED@STBERNADETTESCHURCH.ORG OR CALL 301-593-5611 X333

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ANNUAL BENEFIT BANQUET ft. Keynote speaker, Abby Johnson October 26, 2023 | 6:30pm

Shady Grove Pregnancy Center is pleased to invite you to attend our 40th Annual Benefit Banquet. Join us in celebrating 40 years of service with a gourmet dinner & dessert, games, and an inspiring message from keynote speaker, Abby Johnson.

The Benefit Banquet will be held on Thursday, October 26, at the Rockville Hilton Hotel. Reservations are required to attend. Please call 301-963-6223 to RSVP by October 13.

Catechists and Aides Needed

St. Raphael Religious Education

Catechists echo the teaching of Christ by praying, preparing weekly lesson plans, teaching the lessons, loving the children and teens in their care, attending formation events, and communicating with parents.

Sundays, 7:05-8:20 p.m. Co-Catechist for Grade 3 Catechist for Grade 4 Catechist for Grade 6 Catechist for Grade 7 or 8 Class Aides - all grades



Class aides support catechists by helping individual learners, accompanying children outside the classroom, ensuring an attractive and functional environment, gathering and distributing supplies and worksheets, and filling other roles as needed.

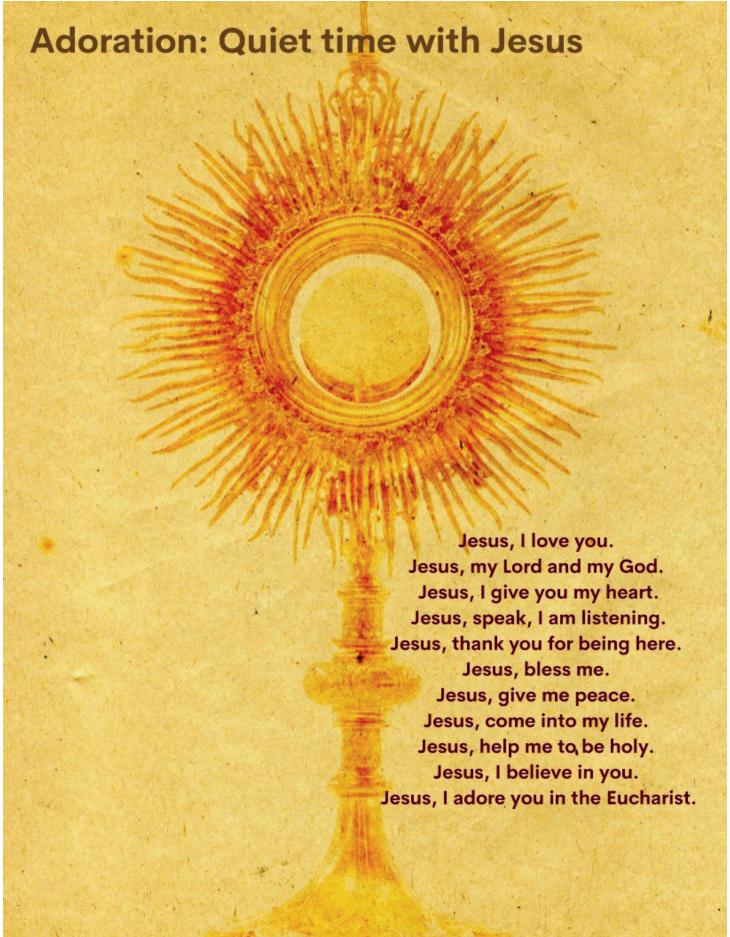
Mondays, 4:30-5:45 p.m. Co-Catechist for Grade 1 Catechist for Grade 7 or 8 Class Aides - all grades



Mondays, 7:00-8:15 p.m. Co-Catechist for Grade 1 Catechists for Grade 2 Catechist for Grade 7 or 8 Class Aides - all grades



For more information, contact Mary Beaudoin at mbeaudoin@straphaels.org or 202-294-7697.



There is not just one right way to adore Jesus present in the Holy Eucharist. He is happy that you have come to spend quiet time with Him! As you come to spend time with Jesus, begin by kneeling on two knees - or bow reverently - before going into the pew. Bless yourself with the Sign of the Cross as you begin your quiet time with Jesus.

- Say "Jesus, I love you, Jesus, I adore you."
- Pray quietly to Jesus. Tell him why you came to spend this time with Him.
- · Think about what Jesus might say to you.
- Say some prayers you know, like the Our Father, Hail Mary.

...or...

Pray the rosary or a decade of the rosary.

...or...

Think of how you are living and acting as a disciple of Jesus.

...or...

Just be quiet and let Jesus be present to you.

Some people use the word "ACTS" to help them pray. It reminds us that prayer includes adoration, contrition, thanks and supplication. Here are ways you can begin this type of prayer:

- · Jesus, I adore you. I come to worship you.
- Jesus, I am sorry for the times I turn away from you. When I am selfish or mad, when I don't treat others with respect.
- Jesus, thank you for the gift of faith, thank you for my family, food, clothes, and all that I have. Thank you for loving me.
- Jesus, please bless those I love, for those who are hungry, or who have no place to live. Please bless people who are sick and lonely.

Before you leave your time of adoration, thank Jesus for the time you had and promise to come back to spend time with Him in adoration.

Adapted from Adoration guide by Sr. Ann Parker, IHM



Register for SRRE Today . . .



Saint Raphael Religious Education (SRRE)

St. Raphael Religious Education (SRRE) offers ongoing faith formation for all children and teens, as well as preparation for sacraments.

- Sundays, 7:05-8:20 p.m. grades 2-8
- Mondays, 4:30-5:45 p.m. kindergarten through grade 8
- Mondays, 7:00-8:15 p.m. grades 1-12
- Family Catechesis sessions on six Sundays at 4:30-5:45 p.m.

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.

Register today at www.straphaels.org/religious-education

Early Registration ends on August 15.

SRRE begins on September 10 and 11.



Religious Education Mary Beaudoin, 202-294-7697

Register for Religious Education THIS WEEK!

We are busy preparing for the start of St. Raphael Religious Education (SRRE) on September 10. Parents are reminded to register children and teens for religious education and sacrament preparation this week. Please note that families must complete the registration for meach year.

Please find the registration link at https://www.straphaels.org/religious-education.

Note that 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 10 and 11. We plan to offer the following schedule.

Sundays, 7:05-8:20 PM – grades 2-8 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

Religious Education Calendar: https://www.straphaels.org/religious-education (Scroll down; use arrows to find upcoming months

*Our Family Catechesis program helps parents grow in their own faith while they guide their children in core faith formation. Parents teach their children each week's lesson at home. Then all families come together for seasonal sessions with hands-on activities focused on faith topics. Families 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 – and to attend the six seasonal sessions.

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

Sacramental Fees: First Eucharist in Spring 2024 - \$75 Confirmation in Spring 2024 - \$75

*Tuition support is available. Please contact Mary Beaudoin to arrange an assistance plan.

Catechists and Class Aides Needed!

In today's First Reading, Elijah is told to go outside where "the LORD will be passing by." The LORD was not in the strong and heavy wind, not in the earthquake, and not in the fire. After the fire, there was a tiny whispering sound. Elijah recognized the voice of God and stood in reverence. By sharing our faith with their learners, catechists help them to recognize God. In the ministry of catechesis we proclaim a prophetic message with the youngest generation of Catholics, so that they too will experience the light of Christ shining in the many dark places of life. You are invited to become involved in this ministry as a catechist, cocatechist, or class aide. To learn more about becoming part of our catechetical team, please contact Mary Beaudoin.

Needed:

Sunday night (7:05-8:20 PM)

Catechist for grade 4
Catechist for grade 6
Catechist for grade 7 or 8
Co-Catechist for grade 3
Class Aides

Monday afternoon (4:30-5:45 PM)

Catechist for grade 7 Co-Catechist for grade 1 Class Aides (all grades)

Monday night (7:00-8:15 PM)

Catechists for grade 2 Catechist for grade 7 or 8 Class Aides (all grades)

Sacrament Preparation for School Age Children

In our parish, preparation for a sacrament is a process that usually encompasses about two years. Typically, baptized children begin their preparation for First Penance and First Eucharist in the first grade and receive these sacraments at the end of second grade. In general, preparation for Confirmation begins in seventh grade, and Confirmation is celebrated in the eighth grade. Children ages seven and up who have not been baptized are invited to take part in RCIA adapted for children. Children who are older than 1st grade who wish to prepare for Eucharist, and children older than 7th grade who wish to prepare for Confirmation are incorporated into our Religious Education classes and sacrament preparation process. Children in Catholic schools need to register with their parish Religious Education office so that they receive information about important meetings. Please contact Mary Beaudoin in the Religious Education Office to discuss your child's preparation for sacraments.

Eucharistic Revival

The National Eucharistic Revival in the United States moved into its second, or parish, year on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. In July 2024, the Church in the United States will hold a National Eucharistic Congress. Pope Francis met with the organizers of the Congress on June 19 and offered these and other important insights.

'It is my hope, then, that the Eucharistic Congress will inspire Catholics throughout the country to discover anew the sense of wonder and awe at the Lord's great gift of himself and to spend time with him in the celebration of the Holy Mass and in personal prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament.... I likewise trust that the Congress will be an occasion for the faithful to commit themselves with ever greater zeal to being missionary disciples of the Lord Jesus in the world... This is the sense of a missionary spirit. You go to the celebration of Mass, receive communion, adore the Lord and then what do you do after? You go out and evangelize. Jesus asks this of us. The Eucharist, then, impels us to a strong and committed love of neighbor. For we cannot truly understand or live the meaning of the Eucharist if our hearts are closed to our brothers and sisters, especially those who are poor, suffering, weary or who may have gone astray in life"

(Pope Francis, Greeting to the Organizing Committee of the National Eucharistic Congress in the United States of America).



Faith in the Lord

Today we celebrate the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Remember to make time to reflect on the <u>Scripture readings</u> with your family: https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/081323.cfm

Key Passage: Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" (Matthew 14:31)

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

Adults: When have you doubted the loving care of God for you as the apostles did in the boat?

☐ Kids: How do you know that Jesus is with you at at all times?

A Prayer for Refugees and Victims of War

Lord God,

No one is a stranger to you

And no one is ever far from your loving care.

In your kindness, watch over refugees and victims of war,

Those separated from their loved ones,

Young people who are lost,

And those who have left home or who have run away from home.

Bring them back safely to the place where they long to be, And help us always to show your kindness to strangers and to all in need.

- Author Unknown

Marriage Moments

August 15 is the Feast of the Assumption of Mary. Through Mary, Jesus came into the world. She nurtured him, witnessed his passion, and stood by the apostles at Pentecost. Mary's life mirrors God's relationship with us during times of bliss, agony, and fear. Despite being the mother of God, she focused on those in need; the lowly. Let go of self-importance today and be lifted up with Mary.

Parenting Pointers

"A woman...was with child and wailed aloud in pain as she labored to give birth." (Revelation 12:2). Perhaps you who are mothers experienced great pain in giving birth. Perhaps not. Perhaps you who are fathers joined emotionally in the angst of giving birth. Either way reflect together today about what bringing a new life into the world has meant for you.

Living Laudato Si' - Eco-Tips

Planet Earth supports our lives. We must take care of it. In Pope Francis' encyclical, LAUDATO SI', he calls not only on Catholics, but all humanity to care more vigorously for creation.

CLEANING

EASY: Review my Eco-Friendly household cleaning products list at bit.ly/44rpb3C

CHALLENGING: Choose one new product to try.

*Marriage Moments, Parenting Pointers, and Eco-Tips by Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net

CHRISTUS VIVIT

Christus Vivit

To Young People and to the Entire People of God

Christus vivit (Christ is alive) is a post-synodal apostolic exhortation of Pope Francis, written

in response to the Fifteenth Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, on young people, faith, and vocational discernment. That synod was held in October 2018. This week we continue Chapter Five: Paths of Youth.

Courageous missionaries

175. Filled with the love of Christ, young people are called to be witnesses of the Gospel wherever they find themselves, by the way they live. Saint Alberto Hurtado once said that "being an apostle does not mean wearing a lapel pin; it is not about speaking about the truth but living it, embodying it, being transformed in Christ. Being an apostle does not mean carrying a torch in hand, possessing the light, but being that light... The Gospel, more than a lesson, is an example. A message that becomes a life fully lived."

176. The importance of witness does not mean that we should be silent about the word. Why should we not speak of Jesus, why should we not tell others that he gives us strength in life, that we enjoy talking with him, that we benefit from meditating on his words? Young people, do not let the world draw you only into things that are wrong and superficial. Learn to swim against the tide, learn how to share Jesus and the faith he has given you. May you be moved by that same irresistible impulse that led Saint Paul to say: "Woe to me if I do not proclaim the Gospel" (1 Cor 9:16)!

177. "Where does Jesus send us? There are no borders, no limits: he sends us everywhere. The Gospel is for everyone, not just for some. It is not only for those who seem closer to us, more receptive, more welcoming. It is for everyone. Do not be afraid to go and bring Christ into every area of life, to the fringes of society, even to those who seem farthest away and most indifferent. The Lord seeks all; he wants everyone to feel the warmth of his mercy and his love." He invites us to be fearless missionaries wherever we are and in whatever company we find ourselves: in our neighborhoods, in school or sports or social life, in volunteer service or in the workplace. Wherever we are, we always have an opportunity to share the joy of the Gospel. That is how the Lord goes out to meet everyone. He loves you, dear young people, for you are the means by which he can spread his light and hope. He is counting on your courage, your boldness and your enthusiasm.

178. Don't think that this mission is soft and easy. Some young people have given their lives for the sake of missionary outreach. As the Korean bishops put it: "we hope that we can be grains of wheat and instruments for the salvation of humanity, following upon the example of the martyrs. Though our faith is as small as a mustard seed, God will give it growth and use it as an instrument for his work of salvation." Young friends, don't wait until tomorrow to contribute your energy, your audacity and your creativity to changing our world. Your youth is not an "in-between time." You are the now of God, and he wants you to bear fruit. For "it is in giving that we receive." The best way to prepare a bright future is to experience the present as best we can, with commitment and generosity.

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Damien@dvalawoffice.com Active St. Raphael Parishioner & Parent to 3 S.R.S. Graduates

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