## St. Raphael Catholic Church



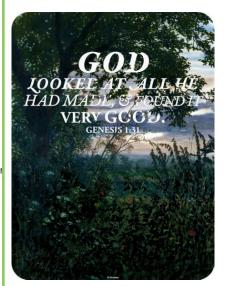
## Make authentic connections with other women Refuel and refresh | Learn more about God

Walking with Purpose gives women the opportunity to embark on a journey where they learn how they can navigate everyday challenges and struggles with the help of Biblical teachings, the love of Jesus Christ and the support of other women.

This fall St. Raphael will be offering, *Opening Your Heart,* which explores the fundamental questions of our Catholic faith and our relationship with Jesus Christ. Join us as we examine the core questions that we need to wrestle with if we want to experience all that God has for us.

We will meet Thursday morning's from 9:45-11:30 AM, Youth Center, beginning September 14, 2023. Child care will be available off-site. Registration will open in August.

Questions? Contact Janice Frankford at <a href="mailto:jwfrankford@yahoo.com">jwfrankford@yahoo.com</a> or (206) 661–2972 To Register, Contact: Kathy Lising at (301) 525–8678 or <a href="mailto:straphael.wwp@gmail.com">straphael.wwp@gmail.com</a>



## 1513 Dunster Road Rockville, Maryland 20854

September 3, 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: <a href="https://straphaels.org/parish-registration-form">https://straphaels.org/parish-registration-form</a>

The **Parish Wide Ministry** Resource List can be found on our website www.straphaels.org .

For Life Affirming Resources:

https://adw.org/about-us/resources/pregnant-need-help/ Healing after abortion? Project Rachel 301-853-4565

St Vincent de Paul/St Raphael Conference Intake Number: 240-447-7027

**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 Tuesday, 7:30PM

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 2024 Mass intention request book is open.

You may request your Mass intention (limit 12) in person at the Parish Office.

Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:30AM-5PM.

The **Second Collection** next weekend September 9/10 is for The Catholic University of America. Thank you for your generosity.

#### Please pray for Father Mike and couples attending Retrouvaille this weekend.

Retrouvaille has helped tens of thousands of couples struggling in their marriage.

For confidential information or to register for any upcoming program go to:

www.HelpOurMarriage.org, call (443) 400-7017, or email us at: Maryland@HelpOurMarriage.org

## **Holy Mass**

followed by **Healing Prayers** 

SEPTEMBER 5, 7:00 PM

Confessions will continue during Mass and Healing Prayers.





#### The Rite of Christian Initiation, RCIA



Our Church

**Become** We are in the RCIA Inquiry Stage. If you are thinking about joining the Catholic Church, or just looking for meaning in life, please join our meetings Sundays in 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.

#### Mass Schedule and Intentions for the Week Twenty-Second Week in Ordinary Time

#### Monday, September 4

6:30AM Michael Williams (d) 9:00AM Helmut Finke (d)

#### Tuesday, September 5

6:30AM Meredith Dwyer (d) 9:00AM Jane Denker (d)

7:00PM Mass & Healing Prayers Deacon Robert Price (d)

#### Wednesday, September 6

6:30AM Daniel McCarthy (d) 9:00AM Helen Lowery

#### Thursday, September 7

John Wilbert (d) 6:30AM

9:00AM John & Mariakutty Nidhiry (d)

#### Friday, September 8

6:30AM Russell P. Tedesco (d) 9:00AM Milagro Welter (d)

#### Saturday, September 9

9:00AM Rosita Divino (d)

5:00PM Fr. Tom Dr. Joseph & Eileen Zigarelli (d)

#### Sunday, September 10

7:00AM Fr. Tom Manuel & Dolores Correa (d) 8:30AM Fr. John Rosita Divino (d) Barbara O'Connor (d)

10:00AM Fr. Christian 11:30AM Fr. Tom Keven Lingren (d) 1:00PM Fr. John Alejandro Flores (d) Members of the Parish 6:00PM Fr. Christian

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 click the link to YouTube Channel.

#### Baptisms:

Rebecca Lourdes Garcia August 19 Ian Eyram Hounkale August 19 Kolbe Zane Meadows August 26

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 29.

#### Please pray for the soul of

Colleen Cohan & Bill Deeg, sister and brother-in-law of Kathleen Cohan



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.

### **Help Needed**

We are looking for friendly, energetic and communicative individuals who are patient and enjoy being with children to fill staff positions in the following areas:

**Before Care:** Individual will assist other staff members in supervising nursery school students and escorting them to their classroom Schedule: M-F 7:30 – 9:00 a.m.

**Lunch/Recess:** Individual will assist other staff members to assist and supervise students during their lunch and recess period. This position requires individuals to work both indoor and outdoor during recess periods. Schedule: M-F 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**After Care:** Individual will assist other staff members in supervising nursery school and grades K-8 students following the end of the school day. Students will enjoy a snack, study and/or finish their homework, and have free/play time indoor/outdoor. Schedule: M-F 2:45-6 p.m.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in one or all of the above-mentioned positions, contact Lara Roach at <a href="mailto:linearth: left] roach@straphaels.org</a> and attach a resume. Please note that individuals that apply, and are considered for a position, will need to complete and submit paperwork for VIRTUS training required by the ADW, fingerprinting and a background check.



## Save the date

St. Raphael Church Married Couples Retreat Saturday, February 10, 2024

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

St. John the Evangelist Church Silver Spring Maryland is seeking an Administrative Assistant/Parish Secretary. Responsibilities: Serves as first contact with visitors in parish office. Performs general clerical duties including production of the parish bulletin; maintaining parish correspondence, telephone, scheduling. database; Candidate should have minimum 3 years' experience as an Administrative Assistant. Must have knowledge of Catholic teachings and practices. Proficiency in Microsoft Office (Word and Excel) required—strongly preferred. Candidate must have effective written, verbal and interpersonal communication skills and the ability to maintain confidentiality. Must also be dependable, organized, detail oriented, self-motivated, able to multi-task with little supervision and meet deadlines. Bookkeeping knowledge is a plus and able to communicate in Spanish. Submit resume to frjcalis@aol.com

## Youth Ministry Annie McHugh, 240-864-2519

#### **High School Youth**

#### Fall Kick Off - September 10

All high school teens are invited for our fall kick off in the Youth Center and Trumpet Room! Join us for large gym games, small group challenges and more as we start a brand new semester. Hope to see you there, especially if it is your first time. 7-9PM in the Youth Center and Trumpet Room.

Color War @ St. Pat's—September 16

All high school teens are invited for Color War at St. Patrick's Church! Come dressed to get covered in liquid and paint powder through ridiculous games and challenges. Join dozens of teens from all over Montgomery County for an unforgettable afternoon. 4-6PM on the St. Patrick Church field.

#### Why God? - September 17

Why do we believe in God? Is it rational to believe in Him? If there is no God, then what's the point of religion? Join YG as we address the question upon which everything else rests, "Does God exist and how can we know this through reason?" All high schoolers are invited to join us from 7-9PM in the Youth Center for pizza, friends, and conversation!

Why God 2.0? - September 24

Join Youth Group as we look inside the human heart to find the natural longings and tendencies which point to the reality of God's existence. We'll discuss how common morality and natural law demonstrate a longing for happiness are evidence of a Creator calling out. All high schoolers are welcome from 7-9PM in the Youth Center, all newcomers welcome!

#### Scripture Readings for the Week of September 3, 2023

**Sunday Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time** Jer 20:7-9; Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27

#### Monday

1 Thes 4:13-18; Ps 96:1 & 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13; Lk 4:16-30

#### Tuesday

1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday Col 1:1-8; Ps 52:10, 11; Lk 4:38-44

**Thursday** Col 1:9-14; Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6; Lk 5:1-11

Friday Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6ab, 6c; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or Mt 1:18-23

**Saturday** Memorial of Saint Peter Claver, Priest Col 1:21-23; Ps 54:3-4, 6 & 8; Lk 6:1-5

**Sunday** Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Ez 33:7-9; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20

#### **EPIC: The Early Church**

Tuesday Mornings 10 -12:00 Noon in <u>PARISH LIBRARY</u> September 12 – November 14
Tuesday Mornings 10:30 – 12:00 Noon on <u>ZOOM</u> September 12 – November 14
Thursday Evenings 7:30 – 9:00 PM on <u>ZOOM</u> September 14 – November 16

<u>Epic: The Early Church</u> is about the first 500 years of the Church – a time of courageous saints, brilliant philosophers, eloquent theologians, threatening heresies, ruthless emperors, and heroic martyrs – a time that prepared the Church to carry on the faith. This 10-part study with its colorful workbook, videos & timeline chart will draw you closer to Christ through a deeper understanding of His Church.

For further information and to sign up, contact Dorothy Welsh at <a href="mailto:dwwelsh5@aol.com">dwwelsh5@aol.com</a> (for Tuesday classes) or Terry Salsgiver at <a href="mailto:tsalsgiver@comcast.net">tsalsgiver@comcast.net</a> (for Thursday class). View & order the Study Set (materials & online video access \$26.95) at <a href="mailto:www.ascensionpress.com">www.ascensionpress.com</a> and they will be sent directly to you.

## Come Join St. Raphael's Team to Support ADW Ride for Vocations

CHECK YOUR BRAKES! REFILL YOUR WATER BOTTLES! THROW YOUR BICYCLE ON THE BIKE RACK, AND JOIN HUNDREDS OF CATHOLICS FOR THE "RIDE FOR VOCATIONS" SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH.

Once again a team of riders from St. Raphael's, including Deacon Rich Meyer, Bill Arcieri, Mike Coene, Alonzo Garcia, Daniel Rueda Posada, and Frederico Sologuren will be joining a group of priests, seminarians, and laypeople from across the Archdiocese of Washington to participate in a long-distance bicycle ride to support priestly vocations in the Archdiocese through prayer, sacrifice, and financial support. The goal for the ride is to have each participant raise at least \$250 from either his/ fundraising sponsors, or personal contribution. Cyclists of all experience levels are welcome to join us for our Bike Ride at either the 100, 70, 50, or 20mile distance. The ride will start from Sacred Heart Church in LaPlata, MD and proceed along the state's beautiful southern byways. Re-fuel your body and soul at Catholic Churches along the way. To register or obtain further information on the ride, please see https:// dcpriest.org/ride-for-vocations.

Please contact Bill Arcieri at <a href="warcieri@gmail.com">warcieri@gmail.com</a> or Deacon Rich at <a href="rsmhome@verizon.net">rsmhome@verizon.net</a> for further information on joining the St. Raphael's team, including practice rides, or supporting or team financially. Should you choose to donate online, please indicate that your donation is in support of the St. Raphael's team.

If you are approached by someone in church or parking lot in need of help, please hand them a bulletin with below information. The SVdP intake number is also on bulletin front cover.



#### The Society of St. Vincent de Paul St. Raphael Catholic Church Conference

1513 Dunster Road Rockville MD 20854

240-447-7027 - Intake

If you are in need of financial help (for utilities, housing, food or other needs) please call the phone number above. If no one answers, leave a message, giving your name and phone number, repeating the phone number a second time.

You will receive a call from one of our members within 24 hours. If you don't receive a return call in 24 hours, please call again to make sure the message wasn't missed.

#### **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 Co-Catechist for Grade 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. Catechist for Grade 7 Class Aides - all grades



Mondays, 7:00-8:15 p.m. Catechist for Grade 3 Catechist for Grade 5 Class Aides - all grades



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

#### THE POPE'S INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER

For people living on the margins

We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

#### 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: <a href="mailto:parishcouncil@straphaels.org">parishcouncil@straphaels.org</a>.



#### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- · 6pm Holy Hour and Meditation by Fr. James Glasgow on the Eucharist and the Dignity of Life
- · 7pm Matt Britton, General Counsel of 40 Days for Life
- · 8pm Reception

#### JOIN OUR EVENT

#### Friday, September 15 6-9 pm

St. Mary's Catholic Church Chapel and School Gym Rockville, MD

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- prayforliferockville@protonmail.com
- # 40daysforlife.com

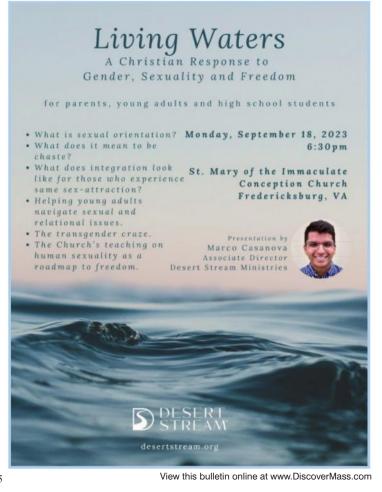
Cross Walk- Saturday, September 16, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm. Join Fr. James Morrison, Fr. James Glasgow, and others for a day pilgrimage walking



through Maryland and DC historical Catholic Churches. The pilgrimage begins at St. Mary's Rockville historic Chapel (520 Veirs Mill Rd. Rockville, MD) with an 8:00 am Mass. The eleven-mile walk, with a life size cross, will include visits to Holv Cross in Garrett Park, Holy Redeemer in Kensington, Our Lady of Lourdes in Bethesda, and will end at St. Ann's in Washington, D.C. Bring water and lunch. Dinner is provided but do RSVP. St. Ann's is metro accessible to return to St. Mary's for vour trip home. Ćome rain or shine.

Please RSVP by September 8th to FrJames@ololrcc.org.













**It Was** 

an Amazing Opening Day!



www.straphaelschoolmd.org | www.srnsmd.org |







@SRSrockville



## Have a toddler? Stay & Play is for you!

Get ready for more smiles! St. Raphael Nursery School's newest program, Stay & Play, returns Sept. 13. Stay & Play's drop-in sessions allow parents, grandparents, or caregivers to bring their preschoolers-in-training to campus. Led by an experienced teacher, our little friends enjoy music, art, circle time, stories, and more as they get comfortable at SRNS. It's an opportunity for parents to connect, trade resources and tips, and just share with each other in our warm Catholic setting. Classes are 9:30-10:30

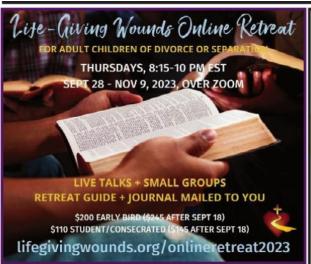
a.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays and cost just \$10 per session.



Preregistration is open at **www.srnsmd.org**. For more information, contact Julie Cress at jcress@straphaels.org or 301-762-2143 ext. 158.

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









## Parental, Spousal and Significant-Other Bereavement Support Group

**St. Elizabeth Bereavement Ministry** will offer an eightweek bereavement support group series for adults who have experienced the death of a parent, spouse or significant other. The sessions will be held virtually on Zoom. The Fall series will meet on Wednesday evenings at 7 – 8:30 PM, from September 20 – November 9, 2023. There is no fee but registration is required. Space is strictly limited so call early. To register call Deacon Kevin Byrne (301-279-5962) or Claudia McAuliffe (301-881-1457).



#### Holiday Inn Washington-College Park

10000 Baltimore Ave, College Park, MD 20740

Join us for a

#### Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on October 13-15, 2023

at Holiday Inn Washington-College Park Save the Date for the Follow-Up Renewal on October 29!

The weekend begins on Friday evening and the couples stay at the hotel through the weekend

#### Your marriage deserves that kind of attention!

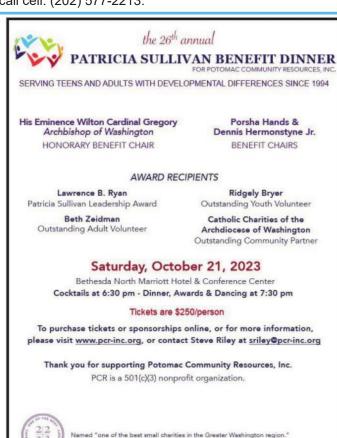
There is a \$50.00 non-refundable application fee with the opportunity to make a voluntary donation

Apply online,
contact: moments4marriage.org Or wwme.org Or call:
301-500-0871



## Blessed Sacrament Bereavement Support Group

The Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament at 3630 Quesada Street, NW Washington, DC, 20015-2538, will offer an eight-week bereavement support group series for adults who have experienced the death of a parent, spouse, child, sibling or significant other. The next series will begin **Tuesday October 24, 2023** and continue for eight consecutive Tuesdays through December 12, 2023 from 7:00-8:30 PM. **The meetings are virtual.** For more information contact Jim Hoffman at <a href="mailto:hoffmanlpc@gmail.com">hoffmanlpc@gmail.com</a> or call cell: (202) 577-2213.



## **Religious Education**

Mary Beaudoin, 202-294-7697

#### SRRE Meet and Greet Next Week!

St. Raphael Religious Education (SRRE) begins next week, on September 10 and 11, with our Meet and Greet for parents, students, and catechists. We'll begin in the Trumpet Room at class time. (Family Catechesis families will meet after the 10:00 and 11:30 Masses.)

The Meet and Greet will feature important information for parents and their children, as well as an opportunity to get to know our SRRE catechists and class aides.

Parents, if you have not yet registered your children and teens for SRRE and sacrament prep, please do so TODAY. Please note that families must complete the registration form each year.

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

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 your family was not part of SRRE last year, please contact Mary Beaudoin to be included in email communications.

#### SRRE class schedule:

Sundays, 7:05-8:20 PM - grades 2-8 [no catechist yet for grade 4]

Mondays, 4:30-5:45 PM – grades kindergarten-grade 8 [no

catechist yet for grade 7] Mondays, 7:00-8:15 PM - grades 1-12 [no catechist yet for

grades 3 or 5]
\*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.)

\*Òur 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 and to attend the six seasonal sessions.

> <u>Tuition</u> One child - \$155 Two children - \$230 Three or more children - \$280

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 the ministry of catechesis we share the Good News 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, co-catechist, 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) Co-Catechist for grade 3 Catechist for grade 4 Co-Catechist for grade 6 Class Aides

Monday afternoon (4:30-5:45 PM) Catechist for grade 7 Class Aides

Monday night (7:00-8:15 PM) Catechist for grade 3 Catechist for grade 5 Class Aides



#### SRRE Class Aides: Adults and Teens

We are in need of class aides to assist our catechists. Serving as a class aide is a great way for parents (and other adults) to be part of the SRRE team while their child is in class, and to gain experience for the ministry of catechesis. By serving as class aides, middle school and high school students can earn service hours and learn about teaching and catechesis.

This year SRRE is offering teen class aides three volunteer term options: 9 week fall, 9 week winter, and 9 week spring. Please contact Ms. Mary Beaudoin for details.

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 begins and Children who takes the second confirmation is confirmation. RCIA adapted for children. Children who are older than 1<sup>st</sup> grade who wish to prepare for Eucharist, and children older than 7<sup>th</sup> 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 Adoration for All!**

The National Eucharistic Revival in the United States is now in its second, or parish, year. When Pope Francis met with the organizers of the National Eucharistic Congress in June, he said:

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.

TeachingCatholicKids.com offers ideas on how to "do" Eucharistic Adoration with kids. Here is an excerpt:

If you're intimidated by the idea of bringing younger children (or even teens) into a quiet Eucharistic adoration chapel...or even to pray before the tabernacle...then take heart: Many parents are already taking their children along to Eucharistic adoration, with good results.

Read the entire article here: https:// www.teachingcatholickids.com/eucharistic-adoration/ Children and teens enjoy "making a visit" to the Blessed Sacrament. It can be a welcome refuge of silence and a nudge to contemplative prayer.

#### Come, Follow Me

Today we celebrate the Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time. Remember to make time to reflect on the <u>Scripture readings</u> with your family: <a href="https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/090323.cfm">https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/090323.cfm</a>

Key Passage: Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." (Matthew 16:24)

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

- Adults: In what concrete ways do you take up your cross and follow Jesus?
- Kids: When has it been difficult to be a follower of Jesus?

#### 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**

Isn't it ironic that "Labor Day" is a holiday for most Americans. But "work" comes in many forms. Offer to do a task that your beloved usually does around your home. If one of you still has to work outside the home on this holiday, treat the laborer in some way.

#### **Parenting Pointers**

"You duped me, O Lord, and I let myself be duped... everyone mocks me." (Jeremiah 20:7) Sometimes a parent may feel that society (even experts) give conflicting parenting advice. (Should I spank or not? When should a child get a cell phone?...) Children also fear their peers mocking them. When in doubt turn to your best instincts and prayer.

#### 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.

#### **FOOD**

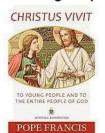
**EASY:** Support farmers and reduce food-miles by buying local produce.

**CHALLENGING:** Commit to a "hunger meal" once a week. This might mean skipping the meal or eating only 1 item (like an apple or simple vegetable.)

\*Marriage Moments, Parenting Pointers, and Eco-Tips by Susan Vogt, <a href="https://www.SusanVogt.net">www.SusanVogt.net</a>

#### **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 Six: Young People with Roots.

Your relationship with the elderly

187. At the Synod, we heard that "the young are focused on the future and they face life with energy and dynamism. But they are also tempted... to give little attention to the memory of the past from which they come, in particular the many gifts transmitted to them by their parents, their grandparents and the cultural experience of the society in which they live. Helping the young to discover the living richness of the past, to treasure its memory and to make use of it for their choices and opportunities, is a genuine act of love towards them, for the sake of their growth and the decisions they are called to make."

188. The word of God encourages us to remain close to the elderly, so that we can benefit from their experience: "Stand in the assembly of the elders. Who is wise? Cling to him... If you see an intelligent man, visit him; let your foot wear out his doorstep" (Sir 6:34.36). In every case, the long years they lived and all they have experienced in life should make us look to them with respect: "You shall rise up before the hoary head" (Lev 19:32). For "the glory of young men is their strength, but the beauty of old men is their grey hair" (Prov 20:29).

189. The Bible also tells us: "Listen to your father who begot you, and do not despise your mother when she is old" (Prov 23:22). The command to honor our father and mother "is the first commandment to carry a promise with it" (Eph 6:2, cf. Ex 20:12; Deut 5:16; Lev 19:3), and that promise is: "that it may be well with you and that you may live long on the earth" (Eph 6:3).

190. This does not mean having to agree with everything adults say or approving all their actions. A young person should always have a critical spirit. Saint Basil the Great encouraged the young to esteem the classical Greek authors, but to accept only whatever good they could teach. It is really a matter of being open to receiving a wisdom passed down from generation to generation, a wisdom familiar with human weakness and not deserving to vanish before the novelties of consumer society and the market.

191. The world has never benefited, nor will it ever benefit, from a rupture between generations. That is the siren song of a future without roots and origins. It is the lie that would have you believe that only what is new is good and beautiful. When intergenerational relationships exist, a collective memory is present in communities, as each generation takes up the teachings of its predecessors and in turn bequeaths a legacy to its successors. In this way, they provide frames of reference for firmly establishing a new society. As the old saying goes: "If the young had knowledge and the old strength, there would be nothing they could not accomplish."



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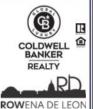


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