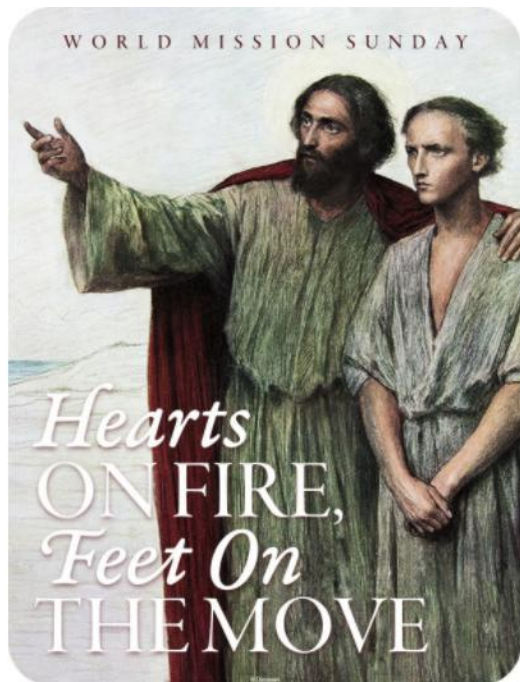


St. Raphael Catholic Church



1513 Dunster Road Rockville, Maryland 20854

October 22, 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 Ministry List** can be found on our website,

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

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.

Bereavement Mass—November 4 at 10:30AM



During the past year you may have experienced a loss of a family member or close friend. As is our tradition, there will be a Bereavement Mass at St. Raphael for all of our parish family members who have died during the past twelve months. We will offer this Mass on Saturday, November 4 at 10:30 AM in the church.

We invite you, your family and friends to join us at this Mass on November 4. Please **RSVP** with your name and the name of your deceased relative or friend by calling the parish office (240-864-2531) by Friday, October 27.



GOSPEL MASS COMING SOON

Please join the Twinning Committee as we welcome Fr. Michael Kelley and the St. Martin's Gospel Choir, who will celebrate mass with us on **Sunday, October 29** at the 11:30 am mass. Let us raise our voices with theirs in praise and celebration! All are invited to join us at a reception for the choir following the mass, which will be held in the All Purpose Room of the school. If you are able to contribute a side dish, dessert, or salad, please contact Carolyn Tyc at tyc1dunc3@aol.com.

Adult Faith Formation – Monday Nights at 7:00PM

Do you need a refresher on the Faith? Are you interested in deepening your understanding of the teaching of the Church? Please join us on Mondays at 7:00 PM in the All Purpose Room for conversations about Catechism, Faith, and our path to Salvation. Our first meeting is on October 2nd and you can join our meetings at any time. For more information, contact Mary Beaudoin at 202-294-7697.



The second collection this weekend, October 21/22 is for World Mission Sunday. Thank you for your generosity.

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 October 17.

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

Monday, October 23

6:30AM Sommero Family (d)
9:00AM Carol Holland (d)

Tuesday, October 24

6:30AM Clarissa Martinez
9:00AM Andrew Price

Wednesday, October 25

6:30AM Richard Ingardia (d)
9:00AM Gregg Price

Thursday, October 26

6:30AM Dee & Ken Krugh (d)
9:00AM Deacon Richard Mattocks (d)

Friday, October 27

6:30AM Marilyn Katz (d)
9:00AM Camila Samper

Saturday, October 28

9:00AM Lawrence Leong (d)
5:00PM Fr. Mike Dr. Joseph & Eileen Zigarelli (d)

Sunday, October 29

7:00AM Fr. Mike Gary Welsh (d)
8:30AM Fr. Tom P.D. Mathew (d)
10:00AM Fr. Christian Dolores Keenan Willis (d)
11:30AM Fr. Kelley Paul & Linda Saah (d)
1:00PM Fr. Christian Members of the Parish
6:00PM Fr. Mike Chase Pearson

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.

Have you signed up for FLOCKNOTE?

It's easy to do and a good way to get current parish news!

You can sign up today:

Go to: www.straphaels.org

Scroll down to Flocknote and sign up.

Scammers never go away! Please know that Father Mike will never ask you for money or cards. Please do not respond to these emails.

Please pray for the soul of

Carol Dunne
Carlos Alberto Papia
Peter Quinn



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.

Prayer Corner

October 22, 2023

Human beings are a unity of body and soul, and so prayer always involves our bodies as well as our minds and hearts. The bodily act of coming to pray in the church or in a designated place at home already speaks to the Lord about our desire to devote and consecrate this time to Him, a desire He inspires within us out of His love for us.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches:

We are body and spirit, and we experience the need to translate our feelings externally. We must pray with our whole being to give all power possible to our supplication.

This need also corresponds to a divine requirement. God seeks worshippers in Spirit and in Truth, and consequently living prayer that rises from the depths of the soul. He also wants the external expression that associates the body with interior prayer, for it renders him that perfect homage which is his due. (CCC 2702-03)

The simple and humble acts of making the Sign of the Cross, of kneeling, of bowing, of sitting or standing expectantly all are ways our bodies share in the prayer of our mind and heart. To do these humble things with purpose and love is one of the great joys of being human. The greatest way our bodies join in prayer is in receiving Holy Communion with love.



ROSARY –

Please join the Knights of Columbus to pray the Rosary during the last hour of Eucharistic Adoration each Thursday evening in October, starting at 6:35 PM in the church. All are welcome. October is the Month of The Rosary.



“We give thanks to God for the safe return home of our Holy Land pilgrims!”

All Saints Day November 1



Vigil Mass – Tuesday, October 31

7:00 pm – Spanish

Masses – Wednesday, November 1

6:30 am and 9:00 am (school in attendance)

4:30 and 7:00 pm

Holy Mass followed by Healing Prayers

November 7, 7:00 PM

Confessions will continue during Mass and Healing Prayers.

The Novena prayers are not recited on Mass and Healing Prayer Tuesdays.



Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.

Body of Christ, save me.

Blood of Christ, embolden me.

Water from the side of Christ, wash me. Passion of Christ, strengthen me.

O good Jesus, hear me. Within your wounds hide me.

Never permit me to be parted from you. From the evil Enemy defend me.

At the hour of my death call me and bid me come to you, that with your Saints I may praise you for age upon age.

Amen.



<https://www.usccb.org/prayers/anima-christi>

High School Youth

NO YG – 10/22

Due to a schedule change, there is no YG on 10/22.

Pumpkin Carving – 10/29

All high school teens are invited to youth group for our annual pumpkin carving party! Come compete to win the coveted "Golden Gourd Award". This event is BYOP, bring your own pumpkin, and carving tools. 7-9pm in the Trumpet Room!

Fall Retreat – 11/17-11/19

Join 50+ high school teens for a weekend away on retreat at Skycroft Conference Center in Middletown, MD! Come away for a weekend of prayer, discussion, sports, sacraments and much more. Cost is \$150.00, contact Mike McHugh for more details/retreat forms.

For more information on programs, or to be added to a youth ministry listserve, please contact Mike McHugh at mmchugh@straphaels.org

The Office for Catechesis, located at the Archdiocese Pastoral Center in Hyattsville, Maryland, is seeking an Administrative Assistant.

This role will coordinate all Living Catholic and Faith Formation courses and will report to the Secretary for Catechesis.

The ideal candidate will have strong skills in administrative support, Microsoft Office and writing. Spanish language is a plus. The role is a full-time position for 40 hours per week plus occasional weekend events, as needed.

Please email your resume and letter of interest to Archdiocese Human Resources recruiter, Lisa Calla-Russ, at calla-russl@adw.org.

Lunch/Recess Help Needed

We are looking for friendly and energetic people to work Mondays and Fridays from 11:30AM-1:30PM supervising our students during their lunch and recess periods. If you are interested, please contact Danielle Laws at dlaws@straphaels.org. All qualified applicants should be comfortable communicating with students and staff, and meet the necessary ADW requirements.

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 or someone you come in contact with 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.

FAITH DIRECT

Why not make a change this fall in the way you support St. Raphael Catholic Church?

This season, rich in the symbolism of harvest and sowing, offers a beautiful reminder: your acts of generosity reverberate, touching countless lives. Sign up with eGiving through Faith Direct, which is the most convenient and secure way for you to make your weekly offering to St. Raphael Catholic Church. Making either one-time or automatic contributions through Faith Direct will also save valuable time for both you and our parish staff.

To enroll, please visit **faith.direct/MD34** or call Faith Direct Customer Service at 866-507-8757.

Peace and Blessings to your family!

Father Mike Salah
Pastor

THE POPE'S INTENTION FOR OCTOBER

For the Synod

We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

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 parishioner issue, please feel free to send an email message to: parishcouncil@straphaels.org.

Knights of Columbus – Putting Faith in Action



The Knights of Columbus Mater Dei Council is participating in the **Box of Joy** Program thru Cross Catholic Outreach, which provides families with an inspiring opportunity to send gifts to Haiti, Guatemala and other developing countries. A Box of Joy is a Christmas shoe box, donated and packed with toys, clothing, school supplies, and hygiene items by participants from U.S. parishes, schools and groups. Each gift represents Christ's love and may be the only Christmas gift children in developing countries are blessed to receive. We are inviting parishioners and families to help with packaging the boxes and personalizing them for the children.

When: Sunday, November 5, 2023 (11 AM – 1 PM)

Where: Trumpet Room: Coffee and Donuts, after 10 and 11:30 AM Masses

What: 150 Boxes of Joy to send to Haiti, Guatemala, and other developing Countries

How: Help assemble boxes, write cards & draw pictures; donations made to Mater Dei Charities, Inc thru November will be dedicated for the Box of Joy campaign.



(Use Phone to Scan)

Prayer Vigil to Witness to the Sanctity of Human Life and End Abortion

Now that *Roe v. Wade* has been overturned, your **prayers** are **needed** more than ever. Montgomery County officials are actively promoting and supporting abortions. Women (and former abortionists) report that **prayers** and **the presence of peaceful, pro-life witnesses** at abortion clinics **dissuaded** them **from** having an **abortion**.

The Fall 2023, 40 Days Bethesda, 40 days for Life campaign began on Wednesday, September 27, 2023 and runs through Sunday, November 5, 2023. **St. Raphael's is supporting the campaign** by **praying** a **rosary** on the public sidewalk in front of the CARE Abortion Clinic at the Wildwood Medical Center, 10401 Old Georgetown Road, in Bethesda, **each Saturday from 10AM–4PM**. The first Saturday of each month year-round is also the Witness for Life prayer vigil for all 40 Days for Life participants at the same location and time. For more information, see <https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/bethesda>.

For security reasons, please do not go alone, but always bring a friend with you. Please meet in the vestibule after the 9AM Mass on Saturdays, if you have questions or need help with directions. *What could be more important than protecting the lives of innocent babies and their mothers from the devastating effects of abortion? If you won't protect them, who will?*

The Rite of Christian Initiation, RCIA



If you are thinking about joining Catholic Church, or just looking for meaning in life, RCIA is a great place to start! We are meeting every Sunday 9:45-11:15AM. You can start participating in RCIA at any time!

To learn more about RCIA, please call Krys Psurek, 240-864-2542 and leave a message or email rcia@straphaels.org. You can also check the latest RCIA announcements and schedule at St. Raphael web site www.straphaels.org > Faith Formation > RCIA.

"Harvesting Peace"

Potomac Area Interfaith Communities

Thanksgiving Service

November 15, 7:30 p.m.

At St. James' Episcopal Church
11815 Seven Locks Rd., Potomac, Maryland

Join us for an evening of music, prayer, and community.

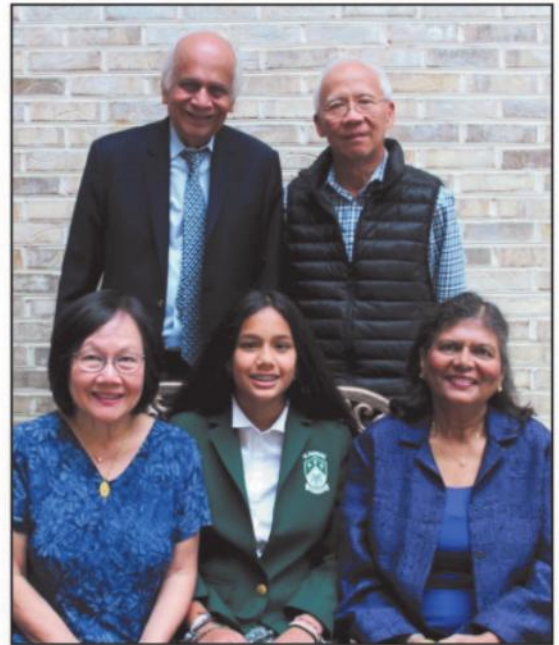
National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

It Shouldn't Hurt at Home. The Catholic community cares about families experiencing violence and unhealthy relationships. Visit www.CatholicsforFamilyPeace.org to learn more about this issue, how to help, who to call, and the rich Catholic teaching that supports survivors. If you need help now, contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline, 1-800-799-7233 (24 hours); 1-800-787-3224 (TTY); <https://www.thehotline.org/> to find assistance.

School News

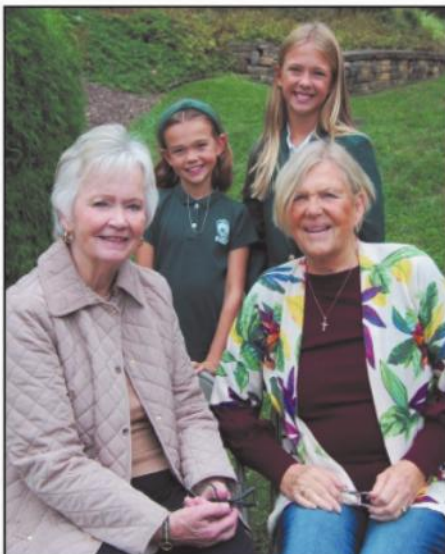
October 22, 2023




A peek behind our classroom doors



GRANDPARENTS DAY ♥ 2023

Blessed are those who spoil and snuggle, hug and hope,
pray and pamper, for they shall be called grandparents.



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



ST. RAPHAEL'S MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

PRESENTS:

THY KINGDOM COME

10 DYNAMIC SPEAKERS INCLUDING:



Kevin Wells
Best Selling Author



Fr. Dave Pivonka, TOR
The Wild Goose Series



Jason Evert
The Chastity Project



Fr. Leo Patalinghug
Plating with Grace



Steve Bollman
That Man Is You

WHEN

Saturdays 6:00 AM - 7:45 AM

TMIY returns for another week featuring Kevin Wells. Last week, Kevin gave us 8 characteristics we need as men to build the kingdom. This week, he introduces us to Venerable Aloysius Schwart, an incredible example of this kind of man.



More info

Scripture Readings for the Week of October 22, 2023

Sunday Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 45:1, 4-6; Ps 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10; 1 Thes 1:1-5b; Mt 22:15-21

Monday Memorial of Saint John of Capistrano, Priest
Rom 4:20-25; Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75; Lk 12:13-21

Tuesday Memorial of Saint Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop
Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21; Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17; Lk 12:35-38

Wednesday
Rom 6:12-18; Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8; Lk 12:39-48

Thursday
Rom 6:19-23; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6; Lk 12:49-53

Friday
Rom 7:18-25a; Ps 119:66, 68, 76, 77, 93, 94; Lk 12:54-59

Saturday Feast of Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles
Eph 2:19-22; Ps 19:2-3, 4-5; Lk 6:12-16



FAMILY HOLY HOUR

To celebrate the Year of Eucharistic Revival, families of all ages are invited to our monthly holy hour on Friday, November 3!

6:00-7:00pm: Praise and Worship Eucharistic Adoration/Confessions in the church.

7:00-8:00pm: Fellowship in parish courtyard, hot cider, cocoa, firepit!

Contact Mike and Annie McHugh for more details at
mmchugh@straphaels.org & amchugh@straphaels.org

Walking with John Paul II

A PILGRIMAGE OF FAITH

for parishes, families, and faith groups

October 21, 2023

Join us for a 12-mile, 6-mile or 1.5-mile walking pilgrimage to the Saint John Paul II National Shrine through scenic Rock Creek Park and Washington D.C.

8:00am – 12-mile Pilgrims check-in at the Knights' Hall, 9700 Rosensteel Ave, Silver Spring MD

8:30am – 12-mile Pilgrimage begins

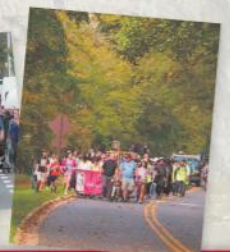
11:00am – Meet at Picnic Grove 6 in Rock Creek Park for the 6-Mile Pilgrimage

1:00pm – Meet at St. Gabriel Catholic Church for the 1.5-Mile Pilgrimage

2:30pm – Mass at the Shrine followed later by the Hour of Mercy and food on the Shrine's lawn

All pilgrimage participants must register online. \$10 for individuals or \$20 for families:

www.jp2shrine.org/pilgrimage



3900 Harewood Rd. NE
Washington DC 20017
jp2shrine.org | 202.635.5400

SAINT
JOHN PAUL II
NATIONAL SHRINE



@jp2shrine

Religious Education

Mary Beaudoin, 202-294-7697



Religious Education Classes

St. Raphael 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. SRRE weekly classes began on September 17 and our Family Catechesis program is underway. Parents can still register their children and teens for SRRE and sacrament preparation and complete missed lessons at home.

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

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 and to attend the six seasonal sessions.

Find the Religious Education Calendar at <https://www.straphaels.org/religious-education> (Scroll down; use arrows to find upcoming months.)

Contact Mary Beaudoin for information on faith formation and sacrament preparation.



The SRRE Office coordinates sacrament preparation for all children ages 7-18. This includes Baptism, Confirmation, Reconciliation, and Eucharist. Please contact Mary Beaudoin for information.

Class Aides Needed!

We are very grateful to all who have come forward to serve as catechists, class aides, and substitutes for Religious Education weekly classes and Family Catechesis sessions. We still have a couple of openings for those who would like to become involved in this ministry. To learn more about becoming part of our catechetical team, please contact Mary Beaudoin.

- **Class Aides for Grades 1 and 2 on Monday afternoons at 4:30-5:45 PM**



Stay and Pray – Monday Nights at 7:00PM

Do you need a refresher on the Faith? Are you interested in deepening your understanding of the teaching of the Church? Please join us on Mondays at 7:00 PM in the All Purpose Room for conversations about Catechism, Faith, and our path to Salvation. Refreshments will be served. For more information, please contact Mary Beaudoin.

First Penance and First Eucharist 2024 Online Meeting



A meeting for all parents of children preparing for First Communion in spring 2024 will be held on Tuesday, October 24. The meeting will be online with a follow up in-person meeting to pick up preparation workbooks. A link will be emailed to all parents of children who are registered. This is the same meeting that was held on October 18.

Confirmation Year I and Year II Meeting Notes



For those families who missed the Confirmation Year I or Confirmation Year II meetings during the first two weeks of October, the Powerpoint presentations are now available. Please contact the SRRE office to receive a link to the presentations.

The Confirmation Retreat (Year II) will be held at St. Raphael on Saturday, November 4.

High school Confirmation candidates must attend one of the high school retreats, The high school fall retreat will be on November 17-19.

Respect Life Month and Catholic Teaching

Every October, the U.S. Catholic Church commemorates Respect Life Month, a time we are called to consider more deeply why every human life is valuable and reflect on how to build a culture that protects life.

Capital punishment is a critical life issue. Executions devalue God's gift of life and perpetuate a throwaway culture. That's why it's important that our pro-life education, advocacy, and prayer this month includes abolition of the death penalty. Learn more and get involved at [Catholic Mobilizing Network](https://www.catholicmobilizingnetwork.org/).

Five years ago, the Vatican announced that it had formally changed the official *Catechism of the Catholic Church* on the death penalty, calling capital punishment "an attack on the inviolability and dignity of the person" and deeming it "inadmissible" in all cases.

Children's Liturgy of the Word Has Resumed!

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLW) has returned at the 10:00 AM Mass and 1:00 PM (Spanish) Masses. We ask parents to encourage their children, ages 4-10, to participate in CLW each Sunday. Parents can come and see too.

CLW is a celebration of the Liturgy of the Word in language that children can readily understand. During the Liturgy of the Word, adult leaders take children to a separate space where they share the Sunday readings and an interactive homily. They pray the Creed and intercessions, then they return to church at the Preparation of Gifts for the rest of Mass.

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](https://www.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://](https://www.teachingcatholickids.com/eucharistic-adoration/)

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.

Living Our Faith

Today we celebrate the Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Remember to make time to reflect on the [Scripture readings](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/102223.cfm) with your family: <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/102223.cfm>

Key Passage: At that [Jesus] said to them "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." (Matthew 22:21)

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

- Adults: How much responsibility do you feel the government should take for meeting the needs of the less fortunate in our society? How willing are you to contribute?
- Kids: Who needs help in your neighborhood or community? What could you and your family do to help?



A Prayer in Time of War

Lord God,
Remember Christ, your Son, who is peace itself,
and who has washed away our hatred with his blood.
Because you love all men and women,
look with mercy on all who are engaged in battle.
Banish the violence and evil within all combatants
so that one day, we may all deserve to be
called your sons and your daughters.
Grant this through Christ our Lord.

- Author Unknown

Marriage Moments

October 24 is [United Nations Day](#). Have you and your beloved ever traveled out of the nation of your birth? How many places? What do the other countries have in common? How is each different?

Parenting Pointers

October 24 is [United Nations Day](#). Talk with your child about where they might want to live if not in your current country. Why? As a family, learn about a country that is still a mystery to you. "On this mountain the Lord will provide a feast of rich food..."

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.

EASY: Reflect on your environmental hopes and concerns. Read *A Prayer For Our Earth* (final paragraph of [Laudato Si'](#), [bit.ly/3pCSCjE](https://www.vatican.va/holy_father/francis/encyclicals/laudato-si/20150618_la-udato-si_en.html) - before the footnotes and the closing Christian prayer).

CHALLENGING: Meditate on how this reflection applies to your life.

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

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 Seven: Youth Ministry.

Main courses of action - continued

212. As for growth, I would make one important point. In some places, it happens that young people are helped to have a powerful experience of God, an encounter with Jesus that touched their hearts. But the only follow-up to this is a series of "formation" meetings featuring talks about doctrinal and moral issues, the evils of today's world, the Church, her social doctrine, chastity, marriage, birth control and so on. As a result, many young people get bored, they lose the fire of their encounter with Christ and the joy of following him; many give up and others become downcast or negative. Rather than being too concerned with communicating a great deal of doctrine, let us first try to awaken and consolidate the great experiences that sustain the Christian life. In the words of Romano Guardini, "when we experience a great love... everything else becomes part of it."

213. Any educational project or path of growth for young people must certainly include formation in Christian doctrine and morality. It is likewise important that it have two main goals. One is the development of the kerygma, the foundational experience of encounter with God through Christ's death and resurrection. The other is growth in fraternal love, community life and service.

214. This was something I emphasized in *Evangelii Gaudium*, and I consider it worth repeating here. It would be a serious mistake to think that in youth ministry "the kerygma should give way to a supposedly more 'solid' formation. Nothing is more solid, profound, secure, meaningful and wisdom-filled than that initial proclamation. All Christian formation consists of entering more deeply into the kerygma" and incarnating it ever more fully in our lives. Consequently, youth ministry should always include occasions for renewing and deepening our personal experience of the love of God and the living Christ. It can do this in a variety of ways: testimonies, songs, moments of adoration, times of spiritual reflection on the sacred Scriptures, and even an intelligent use of social networks. Yet this joyful experience of encounter with the Lord should never be replaced by a kind of "indoctrination."

215. On the other hand, any program of youth ministry should clearly incorporate various means and resources that can help young people grow in fraternity, to live as brothers and sisters, to help one another, to build community, to be of service to others, to be close to the poor. If fraternal love is the "new commandment" (Jn 13:34), "the fullness of the Law" (Rom 13:10) and our best way of showing our love for God, then it has to have a primary place in every project of youth formation and growth to maturity.

Harvesting Peace – November 15

The eighth annual Potomac Area Interfaith Communities (PAIC) Thanksgiving Service will be held on Wednesday, November 15, at 7:30 PM at St. James Episcopal Church, 11815 Seven Locks Road. This year's theme is Harvesting Peace. All are welcome to attend in person or by live stream.



Children and teens ages 6-17 are invited to be part of an interfaith choir that will sing during the service. For details and to sign up, please contact Mary Beaudoin. [PAIC Youth Choir](#)

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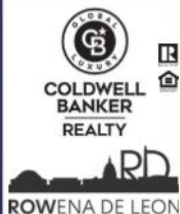
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