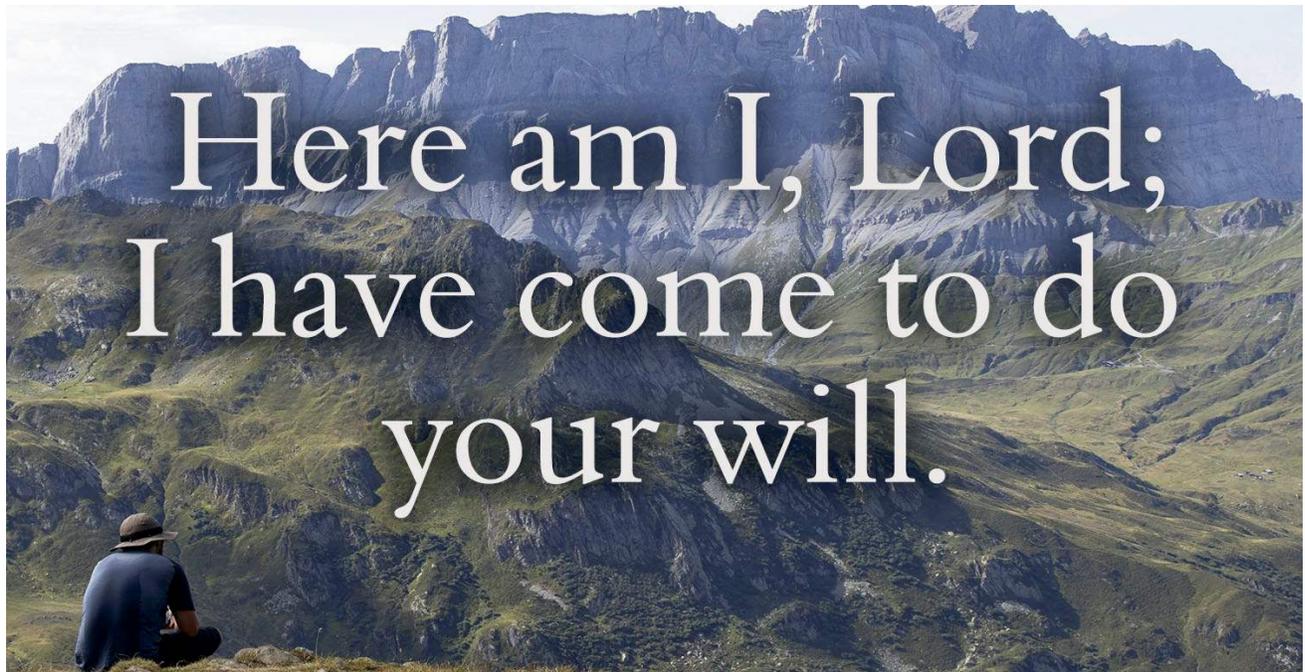


St. Raphael Catholic Church



1513 Dunster Road Rockville, Maryland 20854

January 18, 2026

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. Thomas Morrow, Retired, ext. 128
Rev. Joseph Gonzalez, Parochial Vicar, ext. 150
Email: GonzalezJ@adw.org

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

Taylor Cotting, 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
Annalee McHugh, Youth Minister, amcHugh@straphaels.org
Vince Natali, Dir. Of Music Ministries, 240-864-2532
Krys Psurek, OCIA Coordinator, 240-864-2542, ocia@straphaels.org
Elaine Salatto, Publications, Welcoming, 240-864-2513
Karen Watson, Coordinator of Religious Education, ext. 124

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: 240-688-6829

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: Sunday: 7:00, 8:30, 10:00, (children), 11:30AM, 1:00PM (español), 6:00PM (youth) Saturday: 5:00 PM

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.

Update Your Online Parish Giving

Faith Direct has merged to be part of the ParishSoft Giving platform.

What you need to know!

All your giving data and payment information was securely migrated over so that you do not have to create a new account. Your login information will be the same password that you had in Faith Direct and your user name will be the email address on file on your account. However if you have any trouble with it, we recommend to click 'forgot password' and instructions will be sent to your email to reset your password.

[If you should have any questions or need any assistance on your account, you can contact ParishSOFT Donor Support at donorsupport@parishsoft.com or call #866-930-4774 option 6.](#)

If you're signed up for weekly offering, the amount that you want to donate weekly will be deducted weekly instead of once a month! This is a benefit to not only you but the parish as well. If you don't like it and would like to keep the amount just once a month, you will be able to log in and update your account or contact Donor Support to have that change made as well. You're also no longer locked into the 4th or the 15th, you'd be able to log in and set your recurring gifts based on your schedule any day of the month.

Your Parish Giving

The new sign in link for both NEW and Existing parish donors is

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/FD-34>

ParishSOFT Donor Support
at donorsupport@parishsoft.com
or call #866-930-4774 option 6.



This is new QR code for Parishsoft (Faith Direct) eGiving

Please pray for Father Mike and all couples at the Retrouvaille Retreat this weekend.

Next weekend the second collection is for the Archdiocese of Military Service. We 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 January 13.

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

Monday, January 19

6:30AM Constanza Mondragon
9:00AM Thomas G. Smith (d)

Tuesday, January 20

6:30AM Richard Hacker (d)
9:00AM Anne Marie Puglise (d)

Wednesday, January 21

6:30AM Telmo Munoz (d)
9:00AM Benjamin Koka

Thursday, January 22

6:30AM John G. Rasmussen (d)
9:00AM Victor Stello (d)

Friday, January 23

6:30AM Miguel Guerra (d)
9:00AM Sarah Cevallos (d)

Saturday, January 24

9:00AM Gloria Velaz
5:00PM Fr. Joe Denise Rogers Dorsey (d)

Sunday, January 25

7:00AM Fr. Mike James Watson (d)
8:30AM Fr. Mike Janice Power (d)
10:00AM Fr. Mike Members of the Parish
11:30AM Fr. Joe Deacon Richard Mattocks (d)
1:00PM Fr. Joe Felicita Chavez (d)
6:00PM Fr. Joe Victoria Aquino (d)

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.

Please pray for the soul of

Lucille DeGraba

Mother of parishioners, Patrick and Tom DeGraba,
grandmother of Thomas DeGraba



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.

Parishioners who have lost a family member outside of the parish, please call 240-864-2510 with their names and they will be included in prayers.

Scam Alert!

Be mindful of the sender's email address if you receive an email "from Fr. Mike" or "pastor"

The real Fr. Mike @ salahm@adw.org , will not ask for a favor, gift cards, etc. by email or text.

Wedding Anniversary Mass to Celebrate the Vocation of Marriage on Saturday, February 14, 2026

Join us at the Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass to honor the Vocation of Marriage on **Saturday, February 14, 2026, 10:00 AM at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception**. Couples, please register by February 6, 2026, to attend the Mass and/or request a certificate in honor of your anniversary year. All married couples and their families are welcome, regardless of how long you have been married. Couples registered will receive a certificate.

If you would like to register, email the following information to esalatto@straphaels.org

- Name
- Number of Years Married
- Any Children attending the Mass

Rockville Catholic Summer Program

Registration opens in February for our parish summer camp, the Rockville Catholic Summer Program! Each year, RCSP hosts 1,500+ campers, ages 4-14, for seven weeks of sports, crafts, LEGO robotics, tree house building, Minecraft and more! Our prices are the lowest in the area and our staff is the best!

Visit www.rockvillecatholicsummer.com to learn more! Contact rockvillecatholicsummer@gmail.com with any questions.

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



240-688-6829 – Intake
This number is also on front of bulletin.

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.

High School Youth

Judgmental Much? – 1/18

Join us as we begin a new series on the virtues! At this night, we'll look at the virtue of prudence and why we need it to judge rightly in our lives. 7-9 PM in the youth center, all high school teens welcome!

March for Life – 1/23

Join St. Raphael's YG in standing up for the rights of the unborn at the National March for Life! Email Mike McHugh at mmchugh@straphaels.org for more details or to sign up your teen.

Theology of the Body for High School

Beginning on Feb. 2nd and running for 10 Mondays, Annie will be leading a high school theology of the body going deeper series. This program will dive into the teachings of Saint John Paul II on marriage, chastity, sexuality and more. 7:30-8:45 PM in the youth center. Cost is \$22, please email amchugh@straphaels.org to register your teen.

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

Scripture Readings for the Week of January 18, 2026

Sunday Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

Monday
1 Sm 15:16-23; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23; Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday
1 Sm 16:1-13; Ps 89:20, 21-22, 27-28; Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday Memorial of Saint Agnes, Virgin and Martyr
1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10; Mk 3:1-6

Thursday Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children
1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7; Ps 56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-11, 12-13; Mk 3:7-12

Friday
1 Sm 24:3-21; Ps 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11; Mk 3:13-19

Saturday Memorial of Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-37; Ps 80:2-3, 5-7; Mk 3:20-21

Sunday Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 8:23—9:3; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17; Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17

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.

School News

A peek behind our classroom doors



January 18, 2026



All Aboard, the Middle School Polar Express!

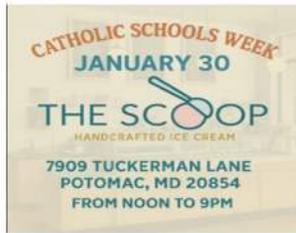


Parishioners, community, & friends
Save the Date: April 25, 2026

www.straphaelschoolmd.org | www.srnsmd.org |    @SRSRockville



Advent Acts of Service
SRS participated in acts of service including a food drive, card making, and caroling at Raphael House!



SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - JANUARY 18, 2026

Gathering Hymn *In Christ There Is No East or West*

Gather Hymnal #726

Glo-ry! Glo-ry to God in the high-est. Glo-ry! Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and on
earth peace to peo-ple of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we a-dore you, we glo-ri-fy
you, we give you thanks for your great glo-ry, Lord_ God, heav-en-ly King. O
God, al-might-y Fa-ther. Lord Je-sus Christ, On-ly Be-got-ten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Fa-ther, you take a-way the sins of the world have mer-cy on us; you take a-
way the sins of the world. re-ceive our prayer. You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther, have mer-cy on
us, for you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord, you a-lone are the
Most High Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it, in the
glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

Here am I, Lord, here am I; I come to do your will.
Here am I, Lord, here am I; I come to do your will.

Gospel Acclamation

William Gokelman, David Kaufmann

Al - le - lu - ia, Al-le-lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Al-le-lu - ia!

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation Hymn *Precious Lord Take My Hand*

Gather Hymnal #847

Communion Antiphon

Steve Angrisano, Sarah Hart, Curtis Stephan

You have pre- pared a ta- ble be- fore me, and how
pre- cious is the chal- ice that quench- es my thirst.

Communion Procession *Here at This Table*

Janet Sullivan Whitaker, Max Whitaker

Come and be filled here_ at this ta-ble... Food for all who hun-ger_ and drink for all who thirst.
Drink of his love, wine of sal- va- tion...
You shall live for- ev - er, in Je- sus Christ the Lord.

Meditation Hymn *Christ Our Light Has Come*

Steve Angrisano, Curtis Stephan

Cast a-side all your fear and dread, come fol- low the light to
Beth - le - hem the way of sal - va - tion re - vealed to all:
Christ our light has come, Christ our light has come.

THE CONCLUDING RITE

Recessional Hymn *Sent Forth By God's Blessing*

Missalette #260

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**National March for Life Information
Friday, January 23, 2026**

Members of the parish who wish to attend the Annual National March for Life are invited to meet after the 9 am Mass on Friday January 23 to arrange for carpooling to the Rockville Metro station or downtown as desired. We plan on leaving by 10 or 11 am. (*Join our Respect for Life Flocknote Group (see below) for latest information and schedule.*) The March for Life is an inspiring, peaceful, vibrant, and joy-filled rally of women, men, young people, and children from across the country witnessing to the sanctity of human life. For more information and a detailed list of events at the March this year see <https://marchforlife.org/national-march-for-life/>.

**National Prayer Vigil for Life
Thursday - Friday, January 22-23, 2026.**

For information on this year's National Prayer Vigil for Life events, including prayer vigil, and opening and closing masses at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C. see <https://www.usccb.org/prolife/national-prayer-vigil-life-schedule>. Please note that The 5:00-8:00 PM prayer events on January 22 and the 8:00-9:00 AM Mass on January 23 will be televised by EWTN and livestreamed on the [Basilica's webpage](#).

Adoration for Life on January 23, 2026

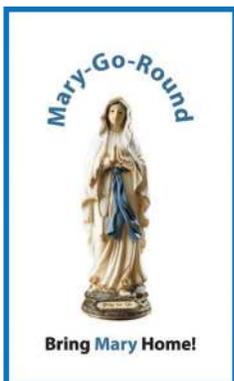
In addition, we will have adoration in the Church on Friday, January 23th after the 9 AM Mass for those who wish to support the March for Life by praying the rosary during a holy hour before the Blessed Sacrament.

9 Days for Life Novena from January 16 - 24, 2026

Like last year, we will be praying the USCCB Novena for Life in the Church at the conclusion of every Mass from January 16 -24. For more details on the Novena and to print your own copy, please see the USCCB website. <https://www.respectlife.org/9-days-for-life>

Join Respect for Life Flocknote Group

Want to stay on top of all the latest news and developments with our Pro-life activities at St. Raphael Catholic Church, including *last minute changes* to the National March of Life schedule, which is often impacted by weather? Please enter your cell phone and/or email address on the first page of our website by clicking [here](#) or send your name, cell phone number and/or email address to Carmen de Perignat at cdeperignat@gmail.com to join our growing list of lovers of life!



Hosting Our Lady

Our Blessed Mother statue will travel every week from home to home to be a loving presence. Parishioners may want to host her to celebrate life's important events, i.e., birthdays, anniversaries, holy days or Our Lady's feast days, etc. Having the Blessed Mother statue in a central location in the home, may encourage families to pray the rosary or perform other tokens of love.

Steps:

- 1) Sign up to host Our Lady at: <https://bit.ly/3YCAJXN>
- 2) The hosting family will receive the statue at the end of Sunday's 10AM Mass.
- 3) The Mary-Go-Round will continue with the next host family at every 10 AM Sunday Mass.

Contact:
Anne Marie Begley
anemariebegley5@gmail.com

VOCATIONS

Men's Discernment Retreat

Friday, February 13, - Sunday, February 15, Saint John Paul II Seminary, 145 Taylor Street, NE, Washington, D.C.

Open to men (18 to 40s), from the Archdiocese of Washington, who want to learn more about a vocation to the priesthood.

Please register at <https://dcpriest.org/event/2026-mens-discernment-retreat/>.

For more information, contact Fr. Mark Ivany, Director of Priest Vocations, vocations@adw.org or 202-636-9020

Quo Vadis Shadow Day

For high-school Juniors and Seniors only (ages 15 to 18), from the Archdiocese of Washington Friday, February 20, Saint John Paul II Seminary, 145 Taylor Street, NE, Washington, D.C.

An opportunity for Juniors and Seniors to learn more about seminary and the priesthood. Students will experience a day in the life of seminarians by joining them for Mass, meals, social time, and class at CUA. Please register at <https://dcpriest.org/event/2026-quo-vadis-shadow-day/>

For more information, contact Fr. Alex Wyvill, Assistant Director of Priest Vocations, at vocations@adw.org or 202-636-9020.



SAVE THE DATE
Heart to Heart Conversation
St. Raphael Church
Married Couples and Families Retreat
Saturday, March 21st, 2026
9:00AM - 3:30PM



Religious Education

Karen Watson, 301-762-2143, ext. 124

Dear Confirmation 2026 Families:

Please remember that **Confirmation Sponsor Forms are due in the SRRE Office no later than January 23, 2026.**



We appreciate your timely submission as we continue preparations for Confirmation on May 9, 2026.

The next Confirmation 2 parent meeting will be on 2/4/2026 @ 7 PM in the Trumpet Room



****VIRTUS Child Protection Training**

Required for All Adult Volunteers**

All adults who volunteer with children or teens must complete the Archdiocese of Washington's Child Protection Program, which includes VIRTUS *Protecting God's Children* training, a volunteer application, fingerprinting and a background check, and a review of the Archdiocesan Child Protection Policy.

Training is available online. To begin, contact the SRRE office. You may also visit <https://straphaels.org/volunteer>

Let's work together to keep our children safe.

Saintly Steps with SRRE

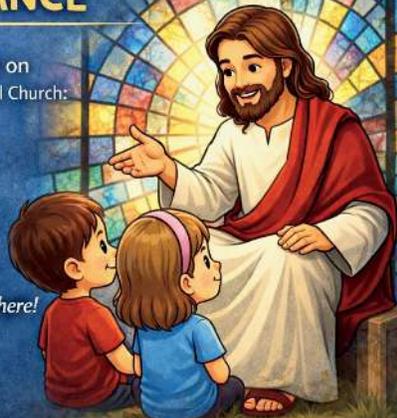
Discover a new holy friend every week as we grow in faith together

FIRST PENANCE

First Penance will be offered on the following dates in St. Raphael Church:

- Wednesday, January 28 at 7:00 PM
- Saturday, January 31 at 10:30 AM

We look forward to seeing you there!



Meet St. Agnes (Feast Day: January 21)

St. Agnes was a young Christian woman in Rome who loved Jesus more than popularity, pressure, or fear. When people tried to force her to choose something she knew was wrong, she stayed strong and trusted God. That's why she's remembered as a saint. She shows us that even young people can be brave, faithful, and pure of heart.

Why the lamb?

St. Agnes is often shown with a lamb as a sign of innocence and belonging to Jesus, the "Lamb of God."

Prayer: *St. Agnes, pray for us. Please help us be courageous and true to Jesus always.*



Come and See 2026 Permanent Diaconate

Could you be called to be a deacon?



Candidates & wives at St. Raphael's after the Institution of Lector, with Bishop Campbell and the attending priests & deacons



Candidates at St. Edward the Confessor after the Institution of Acolyte

If you are a Catholic man interested in learning more about the Permanent Diaconate in The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington, please join one of our meetings about the diaconate and check our website <https://adw.org/vocations/deacons/formation-program/> for more details and requirements.

Please Register at the website above or using the QR Code.

Saturday, January 17, 2026, 6:30 pm, St. John the Evangelist, Clinton (Bilingual English & Spanish)

Tuesday, January 20, 2026, 7 to 9 pm, St. Aloysius, Leonardtown

Thursday, January 22, 2026, 7-8:30 pm, St. Camillus, Silver Spring (English & Spanish)

Sunday, January 25, 2026, 12 pm, after 10:45 am Mass, St. John Vianney, Prince Frederick

Tuesday, January 27, 2026, 7 to 9 pm, St. John the Evangelist, Silver Spring

Wednesday, February 4, 2026, 7 to 9 pm, St. Joseph, Largo

Thursday, February 5, 2026, 7 to 9 pm, Holy Redeemer, Northwest DC

Sunday, February 8, 2026, after 10 am Mass, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Southeast DC

Thursday, February 12, 2026, 7 to 9 pm, St. Mary, Piscataway

Friday, February 20, 2026, 7 to 9 pm, Our Lady of the Visitation, Darnestown

Sunday, February 22, 2026, after 12 pm Mass, St. Mark the Evangelist, Hyattsville (English & Spanish)

Monday, February 23, 2026, 7 to 9 pm, St. Martin of Tours, Gaithersburg (English & Spanish)

Saturday, February 28, 2026, after 5 pm Mass, Sacred Heart, La Plata

Saturday, March 7, 2026, 5 pm in the church after 4 pm Mass, Resurrection, Burtonsville

More locations may be added – please check the website, or the QR Code registration link for details. <https://adw.org/vocations/deacons/formation-program/>

Bereavement Sessions at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church (Virtual)

Starting February 17, Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church is offering 8 bereavement sessions. The focus of the sessions is to honor the life of your lost loved one. Although it can be difficult, attendees tell the story of their loss, review photos that reveal the special relationship that existed with their loved one and explore how their loved one influenced their life. This program is for adults who have experienced the death of a parent, spouse, child, sibling or significant other. The next series will begin Tuesday February 17, 2026, and continue for eight consecutive Tuesdays through April 7, 2026 from 7:00-8:30 PM. The meetings are VIRTUAL. For more information or to sign up contact Jim Hoffman at hoffmanjpc@gmail.com or call cell: (202) 577- 2213.





Consider Remembering Your Parish in Your Will

For further information, please call the parish office.

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