

St. Raphael Catholic Church



1513 Dunster Road Rockville, Maryland 20854

March 1, 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, Director 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: 6:30 - 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

Join us for Coffee & Donuts
Today, Sunday, March 1
after the 8:30, 10, 11:30 AM and
1:00PM Masses

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 February 24.

Mass Schedule and Intentions for the Week Second Week of Lent

Monday, March 2

6:30AM Hernando Rueda (d)
9:00AM Delfina Kunz (d)

Tuesday, March 3

6:30AM Barbara Delucia (d)
9:00AM Moises Najarro (d)
7:00PM Mass & Healing Service Russell Shaw (d)

Wednesday, March 4

6:30AM Deacon Frank & Elaine Salatto
9:00AM Telmo Munoz (d)

Thursday, March 5

6:30AM Swan Thung (d)
9:00AM Keith & Deb Habrock

Friday, March 6

6:30AM Rev. Joseph Gonzalez
9:00AM Thomas Gacia (d)

Saturday, March 7

9:00AM Kevin & Sarah Leifeld
5:00PM Fr. Mike Caridad Balean (d)

Sunday, March 8

7:00AM Fr. Tom Ann Arcieri (d)
8:30AM Fr. Mike Frank & Evelyn Maestri (d)
10:00AM Fr. Mike Members of the Parish
11:30AM Fr. Tom Anne Barrow (d)
1:00PM Fr. Joe Jorge Duarte (d)
6:00PM Fr. Joe Maria Nanashko (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.



Lent—Mark your calendar

Stations of the Cross

Fridays, March 6, 13, 20, 27
After 9:00AM Mass—Mary's Way
6:30PM English
7:15 PM Spanish

Confessions during lent begin at 6:30PM

Parish Penance—March 31—6:30PM

The Family Holy Hour will resume in May.

Talk on the Shroud



**Join us for a
2 hour
presentation:**

- Unveiling the truth of Christ's Passion according to the Shroud of Turin.
- Medical Analysis of the Shroud of Turin
- Presentation of artifacts used in crucifixions.
- Q&A session

St. Raphael (Bilingual)
Saturday, February 28th at 1:00 pm
Trumpet Room

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.

Holy Mass and Healing Service



Tuesday, March 3, 2026

7:00 PM



Those wishing to receive prayers following Mass will come forward to the reserved front pews.
Confessions continue during Mass and Service.

All ladies of St. Raphael's are invited to join us at our Sodality General Meeting



When: 6pm Wednesday 3/11/26

Where: Parish Library

We will enjoy a pizza dinner followed by a wonderful talk by Fr. Blake Evans on his topic, "Priests and Lent".

*St. Raphael Sodality
To Jesus, through Mary*

"Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards."

This is taken from: <https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year-and-calendar/len/catholic-information-on-lenten-fast-and-abstinence>

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

March 1, 2026

A peek behind our classroom doors

100 Days of School and an Olympian Visit!

Students celebrate the 100th Day of School by collecting and counting 100 objects, and had a visit from some 100-year-olds!



Third graders had a virtual visit from Olympian athlete, Manteo Mitchell! Students were engaged, asked great questions, and learned a lot during this special visit.

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



Spreading the Love!



SRS and SRNS students celebrated Valentine's Day at school by wearing red/pink, sharing valentines with each other, and participating in fun games during class parties!

Stay and Play also joined in on the Valentine fun!



2ND SUNDAY OF LENT- MARCH 1, 2026

Gathering Hymn *Bring Us Home*

Deanna Light, Paul Tate

1. Bring us home to the ban-quet, to bread and to wine, the fruit of the har-vest, the
2. Bring us home to the heav-ens where par-don and peace pass all un-der-stand-ing where
fruit of the vine. Bring us home to the ta-ble, to Love's sac-ri-fice, of
mourn-ing shall cease. Bring us home to the king-dom where Love sits en-throned, our
blood and of bod-y, where grace will suf-fice,
hope and our prom-ise, our e-ter-nal home,
of blood and of bod-y, where grace will suf-fice
our hope and our prom-ise, our e-ter-nal home.
Bring us home, bring us home, to Love's sac-ri-fice, bring us home!
to par-don and peace, bring us home!
Bring us home, bring us home, where grace will suf-fice bring us home.
till mourn-ing shall cease, bring us home.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22

Lord, let your mer-cy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Gospel Acclamation

William Gokelman, David Kaufmann

1. Glo-ry and praise to you, Lord Je-sus Christ.
2. you, Lord Je-sus Christ.

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THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation Hymn *Purify My Heart*

Brian Doerksen

Re- fin-er's fire, my heart's one de-sire is to be
ho- ly. set a-part for you, Lord. I choose to be ho ly.
Set a-part for you, my mas- ter, rea-dy to do your will.

Communion Antiphon

Steve Angrisano, Sarah Hart, Curtis Stephan

This is my be- lov- ed Son, with whom I am well
pleased; lis- ten to him.

Communion Procession *Return*

Sarah Hart

Re - turn to me with your whole heart, With fast-ing and weep-ing and mourn- ing.
Rend your heart, not your gar- ments, and re- turn to the
Lord, your God. and re- turn to the Lord, your God.

Meditation Hymn *Transfiguration*

Ricky Manalo

Praise and glo ry, praise and glo ry. praise and glo ry to our Lord!

THE CONCLUDING RITE

Recessional Hymn *From Ashes to the Living Font*

(Verses 1 and 3A)

Missalette #185



**Rockville Women's Center
Ultrasound Machine Fundraiser is
complete! Thank you to all who donated
and
volunteered!
But we are not done!
The Knights of Columbus are running a
Virtual Baby Goods Drive!**

Scan the link using your phone's camera to
send baby goods directly to **Rockville
Women's Center**. It's their Amazon baby
registry!
Scan the QR code to donate today!



Order of Malta
Federal Association, U.S.A.

The Order of Malta Invites You to Attend
16th Annual

Lourdes Anointing Mass

For the Sick, Mobility Challenged, Elderly and their Companions



Saturday, March 21, 2026, at 10:30 AM

Our Lady of Mercy Church
9200 Kentsdale Drive
Potomac, Maryland
Complimentary lunch to follow in the Parish Hall

Questions call: Barbara Ritschel 202-674-2931
or email barbararjff@live.com



**LIFE-GIVING
Wounds**

UPCOMING RETREAT:

Date:
May 22-24, 2026

Location:
4000 Harewood Rd. NE,
Washington, DC 20017

Cost:
\$325 ages 26+
\$250 ages 18-25

HEALING FOR ADULT
CHILDREN OF DIVORCE, SEPARATION, OR
FAMILY BROKENNESS

Register at
www.lifegivingwounds.org/maryland-dc-retreat

Scripture Readings for the Week of March 1, 2026

Sunday	Second Sunday of Lent
Gn 12:1-4a; Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22; 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9	
Monday	Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13; Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday	Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-21 and 23; Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday	Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16; Mt 20:17-28
Thursday	Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Lk 16:19-31
Friday	Gen 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Sunday	Third Sunday of Lent
Ex 17:3-7; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Rm 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42 or Jn 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42	

Heart to Heart Conversation

St. Raphael Church Married Couples and Families Retreat



The Domestic Church invites all married couples and their families to a special retreat focused on loving dialogue and strengthening family life. Couples will learn effective communication tools and child care will be available during sessions. The event is free, generously sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.



Date: **March 21, 2026**
Time: **9:00 AM – 3:30 PM** (Lunch provided)

The day includes Mass, talks, guided conversation, Adoration, and Confession

Register via the link or QR code:

<https://tinyurl.com/straphael2026>

or contact Krys Psurek at

kpsurek@straphaels.org ☎ 240-813-0739

When registering, please provide your and your spouse's names, phone numbers, emails, and your children's ages.



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9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

FOR MORE INFORMATION, EMAIL:

Foodpantry@vvoutreachcenter.org

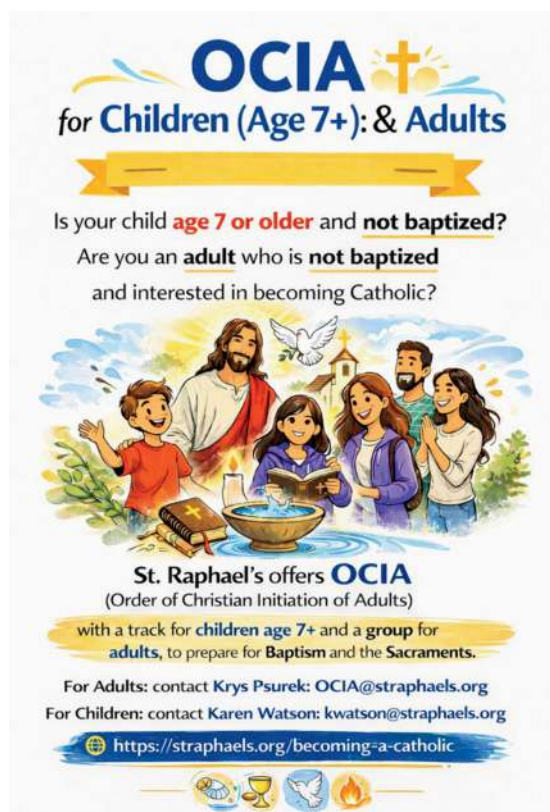
Religious Education

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



CRS Rice Bowls

CRS paper Rice Bowls are available in the baskets in the church vestibule. CRS Rice Bowl is a simple Lenten way to support Catholic Relief Services' work to end hunger. At the end of Lent, when returning your bowl, if you're able, please include a check to **St. Raphael** with **"CRS" in the memo line**, instead of coins. This helps our volunteers process donations without having to count change.



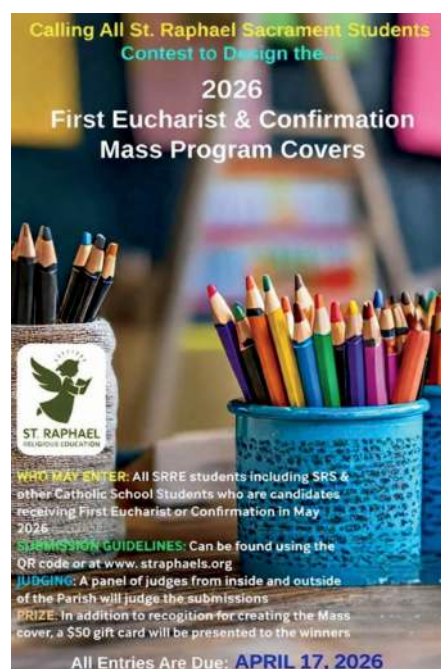
VIRTUS[®]Online

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

St. Casimir – Feast Day: March 4

St. Casimir (1458–1484) was a Polish prince from the Jagiellonian royal family who grew up surrounded by power and privilege but became known for choosing prayer, humility, and caring for people who were poor or overlooked. Even with major expectations on him, he avoided corruption and excess and had a strong devotion to the Virgin Mary. As a teen, he was pushed toward a throne, but he was a prince, not a crowned king, and when he realized it wasn't right, he stepped back instead of chasing power. He died young at 25 (often believed to be from tuberculosis) and is honored as a patron saint of Lithuania and Poland.



Faith is at the heart of our work.

Please keep our state's elected officials in prayer as they make decisions impacting our state. This is especially important from January to mid-April, during the annual General Assembly session.

As Catholics we are encouraged to promote the common good according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1913 and 1915. The St. Raphael, Right to Life committee recognizes that human life is at the center of the "common good".

A key resource available to all who seek to promote the common good is the Maryland Catholic Conference, mdcatholic.org. To Take Action on state legislation that has potential impact on life and the quality of life is readily available at <https://www.mdcatholic.org/take-action/>.

DAY OF PRAYER AND HEALING

Post Abortion Healing Retreat for Women

April 25, 2026

9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. ET

Retreat based on the *Entering Canaan Model*

Suggested donation: \$40.00 (financial assistance available)

For more information, contact Project Rachel Ministry
at 301-982-2008 or hope@adw.org



Location and participation are
confidential due to the personal
nature of this experience.

2026 MARYLAND MARCH FOR LIFE

**Beyond Abortion:
Because Women Deserve Better**

EVENT SCHEDULE

4:00 PM: Registration

4:30 PM: Youth Rally

5:30 Mass & Non-Denominational Service

6:30 PM: March Begins

7:00 PM: Rally on Lawyer's Mall
outside of State Capital Building

7:45: Hot drinks and social mixer
at St. Mary's

Register here:
mdmarchforlife.com



**16
MARCH**



Keynote Speaker
Mayra Rodriguez



Wellspring Life Ministry
CEO Pam Palumbo



Maryland Family Institute
Legislative Update
Jonathan Alexandre

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL
109 DUKE OF GLOUCESTER ST.,
ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401



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

Women (and former abortionists) report that the **prayers** and **presence of pro-life witnesses** at abortion clinics **dissuade** seventy-five (75 %) of them **from** having an **abortion**. **With the total number of abortions increasing since the Dobbs decision, what could be more important than protecting the lives of innocent babies and their mothers from the devastating effects of abortion?**

40 Days for Life is a peaceful, coordinated national campaign to bring continuous prayer to local abortion clinics in more than 600 cities across the world. Our parish will support the **Spring 2026 Chevy Chase 40 Days for Life** campaign by **praying the rosary** on the public sidewalk in front of the Care Clinic's late term abortion at 5454 Wisconsin Avenue, Chevy Chase, **each Saturday** during Lent, beginning **Saturday February 21** through **Saturday March 28** from **10 AM - 11 AM**.

The building is across the street from the Western Ave. exit of the Friendship Heights metro stop. Paid parking is available in the building at 5454 Wisconsin Ave., free parking at the nearby Amazon Fresh (4-minute walk), and there is inexpensive, street meter parking nearby. **Please do not go alone but bring a friend with you.** Please contact Deacon Rich at MeyerRS@adw.org or meet in the vestibule after the 9 AM Mass on Saturdays. If Saturday's do not work, you can sign up to pray at another time on the 40DFL website.

<https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/chevyCHASE>.

Please contact Mary Cardoza at 301-509-2372 or marycardoza826@gmail.com for more information.

American Red Cross Blood Drive: Tuesday March 10 from 3 PM until 7 PM at Beth Shalom Congregation at 11825 Seven Locks Road Potomac, MD You can sign up at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?order=DATE&range=10&zipSponsor=BETHSHOLOM>

SAVE the DATE!
Parishioners are invited to Casino Night
6-10 PM
This fundraiser event benefits the school.





Consider Remembering Your Parish in Your Will

For further information, please call the parish office.

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1515 Dunster Road • Rockville, MD 20852

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- Medication administration / management
- Housekeeping & laundry service
- Nutritious meals / healthy snacks
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