

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKENDS:

Saturday at 4:30 pm

Sunday at 8:00 am & 10:00 am

WEEKDAYS:

Monday through Saturday 7:00 am

Monday - Thursday 8:00 am

No 8:00 am Mass for Summer

HOLY DAYS AND HOLIDAYS:

Check Bulletin For Mass Times

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

First Friday of each month (with exposition) following 7:00 am Mass concluding at 2:00 pm with Benediction

Subsequent Tuesday of each month (without exposition) 7:00 am to 2:30 pm

PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTIONS

Tuesday mornings at 6:50 am

CONFESSIONS

15 minutes before 7:00 am Mass on Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday; and 3:45 pm to 4:20 pm on Saturday

ROSARY

Tuesdays at 7:00 pm in Church

SAINT RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

CATHOLIC CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY

OF
Advent

As the earth brings forth its plants,
and a garden makes its growth spring up,
so will the Lord God make justice and praise
spring up before all the nations.

Isaiah 61:11



DECEMBER 17, 2017

PARISH INFORMATION

Registration of New Members: Please call the Parish Office to register.

Baptism: Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements for Baptismal instructions and to arrange a Baptismal date.

Marriage: Please contact the Pastor at least six months prior to the intended date to begin the Church process of marriage preparation.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.): Please call the Parish Office for information.

**ST. RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL
CATHOLIC CHURCH
6047 BISHOPS PLACE • SAINT LOUIS, MO 63109**

CLERGY & STAFF

Rev. Robert J. Reiker Pastor
reiker@straphaelarchangel.org

Msgr. Dennis Stehly Priest-In-Residence
dennisstehly@archstl.org

Deacon Ron Holmes Permanent Deacon
and Pastoral Associate
holmes@straphaelarchangel.org

Deacon Gerald J. Geiser Retired Deacon

Ty Taylor Seminarian

Mateo Salam Seminarian

Dr. Nancy Deacon Music Director
musicdirector@straphaelarchangel.org

Mrs. Diane Halbert Parish Office Manager
halbert@straphaelarchangel.org

Mrs. Mickey Janos Admin. Assistant
janos@straphaelarchangel.org

Mr. Robert Schlueter Maintenance

Mr. Howard Adams Maintenance

Mrs. Julie Hayes School Principal
hayes@straphaelarchangel.org

Mrs. Linda Mechler School Secretary
secretary@straphaelarchangel.org

Mrs. Amy Ruggeri Cafeteria Manager

Parish Office 314.352.8100
Fax 314.353.6603

School 314.352.9474
Fax 314.351.7477

Website
straphaelarchangel.org

Facebook
Saint Raphael the Archangel Parish and School

Twitter
@SRAtoday

MyParishApp
Text 'App' to 88202

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Monday, December 18th

3:10 pm - Cafeteria	6th Gr. Girl Scouts
6:00 pm - Gym	3rd Gr. Boy Bball.
7:00 pm - Tobias Room	School Board
7:00 pm - Gym	Men's Club Soccer

Tuesday, December 19th

1:30 pm - Parish Office	Bible Study
3:15 pm - Church	De Angelis Choir
7:00 pm - Church	Rosary Recitation
9:00 pm - Cafeteria	Men's Club Meeting

Wednesday, December 20th

9:00 am - Quilters' Room	Quilters
4:00 pm - Church	Confessions
6:00 pm - Cafeteria	Step Class
7:00 pm - Church	Adult Choir
7:00 pm - Tobias Room	R.C.I.A.
8:30 pm - Gym	Men's Club Basketball

Thursday, December 21st

7:30 am - Church	Confessions
8:30 am - Church	Confessions
2:00 pm - Trophy Room	Pre-K Dance
3:00 pm - Trophy Room	K-6 Dance
3:30 pm - Gym	1st & 2nd. Gr. Girls Bball.
7:00 pm - Church	Contemporary Music

Friday, December 22nd

7:00 am - Church	Mass
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Saturday, December 23rd

2:00 pm - Church	Confessions
4:30 pm - Church	Mass

Sunday, December 24th

8:00 am - Church	Mass
10:00 am - Church	Mass
4:30 pm - Church	Christmas Vigil
10:00 pm - Church	Midnight Mass

THIS WEEK IN THE CAFETERIA

Monday, December 18	Tuesday, December 19	Wednesday, December 20	Thursday, December 21	Friday, December 22
Nachos Supreme	Pepperoni Pizza	Baked Potato & Chicken Nuggets	Christmas Break	Christmas Break

FATHER BOB'S COLUMN

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – “GAUDETE” SUNDAY – REJOICE!

Today is traditionally known as Gaudete Sunday, marking the halfway point through the season of Advent (although this year it is about the two-thirds point). Rose-colored vestments can be worn, and the rose candle is lit. We rejoice because we trust that God is taking care of us and is planning on sending us his Son as our Savior. The first reading from Isaiah the Prophet proclaims, “I rejoice heartily in the Lord; in my God is the joy of my soul.” St. Paul in the second reading commands us to “rejoice always.”



ADVENT WREATH – THIRD SUNDAY – THREE CANDLES (2 Purple and 1 Rose)

A prayer for this week: “*Jesus, today you draw my gaze towards Christmas, which is now coming nearer. Do not let me be taken in by weariness or sadness, even though I may have reason to be because of my many concerns and the many forms of violence which wound our humanity. May your coming fill my heart with joy. Come, Lord Jesus!*” from Pope Francis

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION – THIS WEEK

Monsignor Stehly and I are available for confessions in church several times this week before Christmas. This is too good an opportunity to pass up. So plan to examine your conscience this week and repent of the sins that you have become aware of in your life. Then confess them in the presence of a priest and the Lord himself, who is indeed present in this spiritually healing sacrament. At that point you will receive a penance and absolution, so that you will be filled with grace for the great liturgical celebration of our dear Savior’s birth. Here is the schedule:

Wednesday, Dec. 20th, 4pm to 7pm

Thursday, Dec. 21st, 7:30am to 8am, and 8:30am to 9am (after morning Masses)

Saturday, Dec. 23rd, 2pm to 4pm

EXTRA COLLECTION ENVELOPE ON CHRISTMAS IS FOR THE ANNUAL SEMINARY COLLECTION

Today at all the Masses we will hear a seminarian, Mr. Christopher Kennebeck, a first year college student at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary. He will let us know how important the Christmas collection is for the seminary operating budget. Also we will hear about how well our archdiocesan seminary is doing in preparing young men to serve as our future parish priests in St. Louis. Please be generous in your Christmas offering to the seminary and also to our SRA parish with the regular Christmas envelope.

TWO BLESSINGS YOU CAN USE AT HOME:

+ BLESSING OF YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE

“*Dear God, two thousand years ago, you brought your Son, Jesus, into this world to teach us the power of love and sacrifice. As we decorate and light this tree, we remember his birth and the meaning of his life for us. Bless this tree as a symbol of our celebration of Jesus’ birth and our gratitude for his sacrifice. May the joy this tree brings and the gifts we place under it remind us of the many gifts you have given us. We ask your blessings upon our loved ones, this day and always. Amen.*”

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: *Happiness consists in activity - it is a running stream, not a stagnant pool.*

SERVERS FOR DEC. 18/24, 2017

Monday, December 18th

7:00 am Lucille Schlichting Alex Atchison
8:00 am Samantha Koziacki Gavin Smith

Tuesday, December 19th

7:00 am Rory Barnawell Gillian Neal
8:00 am Avery Bradshaw Mady Shine

Wednesday, December 20th

7:00 am Thad Berta Addison Berta
8:00 am Henry Cyr Abby Delf

Thursday, December 21st

7:00 am Alex Atchison Joey Raymo
8:00 am Anna Mersinger Gavin Smith

Friday, December 22nd

7:00 am Lucille Schlichting

Saturday, December 23rd

7:00 am Grace Goeddel Jack Stein
4:30 pm Mady Shine Riley Willmann
Spencer Willmann

Sunday, December 24th

8:00 am Rory Barnawell Joey Raymo
Anna Mersinger
10:00 am Thad Berta Addison Berta
Lucille Schlichting
4:30 pm Flora Borowiak Ellie Guenther
Cate Guenther Gavin Smith
10:00 pm Andrew Kellar Isabella Pfeiffer
Samantha Koziacki Need 3 Extra

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 17th

8:00 am People of the Parish
10:00 am Hutton-Jost Families

Monday, December 18th

7:00 am Jane Bottini
8:00 am Roger Kreitler

Tuesday, December 19th

7:00 am Nancy Whelan
8:00 am Ralph Raskas

Wednesday, December 20th

7:00 am Lorraine Murray
8:00 am Leo & Susie Pinski

Thursday, December 21st

7:00 am George Maledy
8:00 am Dorotheine Hulford

Friday, December 22nd

7:00 am Joann Ahrens SI

Saturday, December 23rd

7:00 am Rose Lafata
4:30 pm Roseann Saracino

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR DEC. 9/10, 2017

Sunday Collection	\$ 6,789
Online Giving	\$ 2,417
Weekly Total Collection	\$ 9,206
Weekly Budget Goal	\$ 9,000
Fiscal Year-To-Date Goal	\$198,000
Fiscal Year-To-Date Actual	\$173,628
Shortfall	\$ 24,372

WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 23/24

DECEMBER 23

4:30 pm

Joyce Holmes

Bob Ahrens
Maureen Ahrens
George Kerry
Margie Auer
Matt Fuhr
Tony Mariani

DECEMBER 24

8:00 am

Barb Cramer

Lorraine Gurley
Sue Lawton
Amy Ruggeri
Rosita Koehler
Christy Connor

LECTORS

Dennis Matreci

Joe Zulich
Dan Harbaugh
Amy Schisler
Anna Skidmore

4:30 pm

Bob Ahrens

Dan Harbaugh
Libby Harbaugh
Barbara Favre
Amy Ruggeri

10:00 pm

Laura Geiser

Rosemary Phelan
Christy Connor
Fred Hodes
George Kerry
Mary Faith Green

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS



Sunday, December 17

Family Mass & Fellowship Sunday

FROM ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

In today's Gospel John the Baptist says "I am the voice of one crying in the desert; make straight the way of the Lord." Let us ask for the grace to help others to know the love of the Lord. Christmas is a time of love and gift-giving. Please give to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that those who do not have clothes and food can share in the blessings of Christmas.

**ADVENT GIVING TREE
LAST DAY!!!!
ONLY A FEW TAGS LEFT!**

The Angel tags went quickly! So please take an "angel" or two from those that are left to help the less fortunate. Again this year, as in past years, our St. Vincent de Paul Society is working with Peter and Paul Community Services. PPCS offers various programs to provide supportive services to those who are homeless, especially those who are living with mental illness or HIV/AIDS. They offer the following programs: emergency shelters; meal programs; permanent support housing; transitional housing and many other services. Please remove a tag or two and return the gift no later than 11:00 am on Sunday, December 17.



The tag should be attached to the unwrapped gift and placed under the Advent Tree. Also, there is a "gift bag" under the tree to hold any gift cards.

LADIES' CLUB UPDATE

The St. Raphael Ladies' Club collected items that were given as Christmas gifts to several local, needy families. Thank you to everyone who contributed. As you can see, quite a few gifts were collected and delivered. The recipients all expressed their gratitude!



KING'S HOUSE RETREAT

**MEN'S RETREAT
FRIDAY-SUNDAY
JANUARY 5-7, 2018**

**WOMEN'S RETREAT
FRIDAY-SUNDAY
MARCH 2-4, 2018**

SPIRITUAL AND LITURGICAL OPPORTUNITIES TO FULLY CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) – extra times

- + Wednesday, December 20th, 4:00pm-7:00pm
- + Thursday, December 21st, 7:30am-8:00am and 8:30am-9:00am
- + Saturday, December 23rd, 7:30am-8:00am and 2:00pm-4:00pm

4th Sunday of Advent

- + Saturday, December 23rd, 4:30pm Mass
- + Sunday, December 24th, 8:00am and 10:00am Masses

Christmas Masses

- + Sunday, December 24th, 4:30pm Christmas Vigil Mass (Christmas Eve) and 10:00pm Christmas “Midnight Mass”
- + Monday, December 25th, 8:00am and 10:00am Christmas Day Masses

New Year’s Weekend

- + Saturday, December 30th, 4:30pm Mass - Feast of the Holy Family
- + Sunday, December 31st, 8:00am and 10:00am Masses – Feast of the Holy Family
- + Sunday, December 31st, 4:30pm – Holy Day Vigil Mass – Solemnity of Mary
- + Monday, January 1st, 8:00am and 10:00am – Holy Day Masses – Solemnity of Mary



**‘SING FOR JOY’
CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
DECEMBER 12, 2017**



WINTER OUTREACH: A MINISTRY OF MERCY

Encouraged by the example of Pope Francis, who lives out our Catholic social teachings of *“Option for the Poor and Vulnerable,”* southside parishes continue to be committed to making St. Louis Winter Outreach a faith-filled Ministry of Mercy.

“As long as you did it to one of these the least of my brethren, you did it to me.” (MT 25:31-46)

While St. Louis is making great strides to provide resources for the homeless, many still spend their days and nights on the streets. Winter is particularly hard for them. In an effort to reach out to our “brethren” needing warmth and food, **we are asking for help to provide meals** during the coldest months.

Drivers are also needed to deliver meals to Americorps Shelter, 1315 Ann St., on our assigned evenings. Anyone is welcome to serve/visit with shelter guests on these evenings:

	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
December	7	8	9
January	11	12	13
February	8	9	10



Will you please provide one of the following:

- 9 x 13 Hot Casserole (any kind)
- Dessert for 24

Together we can make a bountiful meal.

Food is to be dropped off at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish Hall entrance at 6:00pm. If needed, arrangements can be made to pick it up from your home.

If you would like more information about this ministry, like to share a dish, and/or be a driver, please contact Mary Ellen Mueller at 314.374.1712 or Barbara Favre at 314.303.9941.



Francis

51st WORLD DAY OF PEACE JANUARY 1, 2018

“We must also turn this contemplative gaze to the cities where we live, ‘a gaze of faith which sees God dwelling in their houses, in their streets and squares . . .’ When we turn that gaze to migrants and refugees, we discover that they do not arrive empty-handed. They bring their courage, skills, energy and aspirations, as well as the treasures of their own cultures; and in this way, they enrich the lives of the nations that receive them. . . . A contemplative gaze should also guide the discernment of those responsible for the public good, and encourage them to pursue policies of welcome, ‘within the limits allowed by a correct understanding of the common good’— bearing in mind, that is, the needs of all members of the human family and the welfare of each.” - *Pope*



CARDINAL RIGALI CENTER
20 ARCHBISHOP MAY DRIVE
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63119
P) 314.792.7841
F) 314.792.7842
ARCHSTL.ORG

ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

Christmas 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Rejoice! The weeks of Advent waiting are over, and Christ is born!

We rejoice in our Savior's birth—remembering the great gift of faith He has given us through the mystery of His incarnation and the saving power of His death and resurrection.

Each year, the people of our archdiocese have been asked to make a special gift on Christmas Day to support our seminarians at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary. The men of our seminary, who have responded to Christ's call to follow Him, are truly a gift to the Church and to the Archdiocese of St. Louis. It is these men who will bring the faith given to us by Christ 2000 years ago to future generations here in the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

I ask you, once again, to pray for vocations and for all our priests and seminarians. I also ask you to be generous in your donation to the Christmas Day collection, which helps pay the day-to-day expenses and maintenance of our seminary.

Please be assured of my prayers for you during the season of Christmas. May the Lord of life come into your hearts and homes in a special way during this holy time of year.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. Carlson
Archbishop of St. Louis



**&
NFC/AFC Playoff Party**

Cash Prizes – 1st, 2nd, 3rd

When: Sunday, January 21, 2018 **Where:** St. Raphael Gym
Registration Noon – 1pm 6000 Jamieson Ave
Bags Fly at 1pm St. Louis, MO 63109

Cost: \$30/person (Includes Cornhole Tournament, Food and Drink)
\$20/person (Food and Drink only)
Individual or Team Registration Accepted
Must be 14 years or older to participate

Contacts: Mike Ruggeri 314-406-0663
Todd Berta 314-657-7023
Dave Kellar 314-504-0887

Multiple TV's, Football Squares & More

Registration

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Player 1: _____

Player 2: _____

Please make checks payable to St. Raphael Men's Club
Mail to Dave Kellar, 6038 Guilford Place, St. Louis, MO 63109

Registration limited to first 32 teams, payment secures tournament entry
Funds raised will support St. Raphael athletic programs, school activities and other parish needs

PROLIFE FACTS

Did you know that, after conception:

18 days - a baby's heart begins to beat;

7 weeks - a baby can hiccup;

10 weeks - a baby can feel pain;

12 weeks - a baby can smile, suck its thumb and make a fist?

43 days - a baby's brain coordinates movement;

8 weeks - a baby's organs can function;

9 weeks - a baby has permanent fingerprints;

Over 2 million couples wait to adopt – including children of all races and those with special needs. Any text-book will confirm what every doctor knows: **LIFE BEGINS AT CONCEPTION.**

Bishop DuBourg High School

CAVALIER SOCCER



WINTER SKILLS CAMP

WED-FRI, DECEMBER 27th—29th
 FLOYD HACKER GYMNASIUM @ BISHOP DUBOURG

BOYS 5TH—7TH GRADE
 9:00—10:30AM

GIRLS 5TH—7TH GRADE
 10:30AM—12:00PM

\$30/player (includes camp t-shirt)
 Campers will have the opportunity to train with Cavalier coaching staff and players!

*Camp will max out at 20 players per slot. Register today to reserve your spot!

REGISTER ONLINE AT
WWW.CAMPCAVALIER.ORG



Saint Louis LIFETEEN

ATTENTION ALL SRA EIGHTH GRADERS AND HIGH SCHOOLERS

Please join us this Wednesday, December 20 from 7-9pm at Bishop DuBourg as we close out our Advent series and pray and prepare for our Lord to come at Christmas. See saintlouislifeteen.org for more information.

ATTENTION, EIGHTH GRADERS
 Save the date for LUKE 18
 February 16-18, 2018
 More information available at saintlouislifeteen.org/luke18

CHRISTMAS TREE LOT
ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH
SCOUT TROOP 336

Boy Scout Troop 336 of St. Michael's Parish in Shrewsbury is selling Christmas trees in the MacKenzie Pointe Shopping Center. Hours are 6pm to 9pm, Monday through Friday, and 9am to 9pm on Saturdays and Sundays. Your patronage is appreciated by our Scouts.

ATTENTION, SEPARATED, DIVORCED, WIDOWED OR REMARRIED OF ALL AGES

You are invited to join others for fun and to make new friends at the next meeting of the South County Separated, Divorced, Widowed and Remarried Catholics (SCDC) on Thursday, December 21, 2017 at 7:00 pm, at Saint Catherine Laboure, 9740 Sappington Road. We will have a Christmas Mass in Church beginning at 6 pm and a meeting at 7 pm with snacks, drinks, and Christmas music for a sing-along. SCDC is a support group for the separated, divorced, widowed and remarried of our community. SCDC offers social activities and a support group that provide the opportunity to share your story with caring people. For more information, please call Pat Lynch at 314.537.5930, Bill DeCoursey at 314.894.0733, or Jan Inman at 314.892.6933.

OUR LADY'S INN
ANNUAL TRIVIA NIGHT
SATURDAY, JANUARY 20
CHAMINADE PREP
 DOORS OPEN 6:00PM - TRIVIA 7:00PM
 \$25 PER PERSON OR
 \$200 FOR TABLE OF TEN
 Katrina: 314.736.1544
ourladysinn.org

