

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKENDS

Saturday at 4:30pm

Sunday at 8:00am & 10:00am

WEEKDAYS

Monday through Saturday 7:00am

Monday - Thursday 8:00am

CONFESSIONS

15 minutes before 7:00am Mass on

Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday

Saturday 3:45pm to 4:20pm

Confessions also available by
appointment.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

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

PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTIONS

Tuesday mornings at 6:50am

ROSARY

Tuesday at 7:00pm in Church

BAPTISM

Please contact the parish office to make
arrangements.

MARRIAGE

Please contact the pastor at least six
months prior to the intended date.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC

Please contact the parish office.

SAINT RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

CATHOLIC CHURCH



Second Sunday of

Advent

December 9, 2018

Up, Jerusalem! stand upon the heights;
look to the east and see your children gathered
from the east and the west at the word of the Holy One,
rejoicing that they are remembered by God.

Baruch 5:5

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

"We, the parish of Saint Raphael the Archangel, celebrate Jesus as the center of our life. Through our active participation in the Eucharist, we strive to recognize Jesus in our daily lives and the lives of others. Our commitment is to grow as a parish family, and live this through our religious, educational, social and civic involvements, witnessing to all, our faith in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit."

CLERGY & STAFF

Fr. John Mayo Pastor
frjohn@straphaelarchangel.org

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

Deacon Gerald J. Geiser Retired Deacon

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

Mrs. Julie Hayes School Principal
hayes@straphaelarchangel.org

Mrs. Linda Mechler School Secretary
secretary@straphaelarchangel.org

Mrs. Qi Franz Cafeteria Manager
franz@straphaelarchangel.org

CONNECT WITH US!

Parish Office 314.352.8100
Fax 314.353.6603

School 314.352.9474
Fax 314.351.7477

Website straphaelarchangel.org
Facebook and Twitter @SRAtoday
Instagram straphaelarchangel
MyParishApp Text 'App' to 88202

Parish Council Terri Borowiak 314.351.0606
School Board Mike Young 314.780.2954
Finance Council Joseph Cyr 314.335.7322

A PRAYER BEFORE HOLY MASS

Heavenly Father: I, your unworthy servant, come to worship You in this Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. By Your grace, kindly help me to listen attentively, pray devoutly, and receive worthily the Sacred Body and Blood of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. May Your Holy Spirit open the eyes of my heart to perceive more fully the great Mystery that takes place on the sacred altar. At this Holy Mass, I wish to pray in particular for the following intentions: (*here name them*). Amen.

**THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH
DECEMBER 10-16, 2018**

Monday, December 10

7:00am - Church	Mass
8:00am - Church	Mass
5:30pm - Gym	2nd Gr. Boys Bball.
6:30pm - Gym	3rd Gr. Boys Bball.
7:00pm - Tobias Room	Parish Council
7:00pm - Guardian Angel	St. Vincent de Paul

Tuesday, December 11

7:00am - Church	Mass
8:00am - Church	Mass
1:30pm - Parish Office	Lectio Group
3:15pm - Church	Children's Choir
3:30pm - Gym	4th Gr. Boys Bball.
6:00pm - Gym	6th Gr. Boys Bball.
7:00pm - Church	Advent Penance Service
7:30pm - Gym	7th Gr. Boys Bball.

Wednesday, December 12

7:00am - Church	Mass
8:00am - Church	Mass
9:00am - Quilter's Room	Quilters
3:15pm - Gym	4th Gr. Girls Bball.
4:45pm - Gym	5th Gr. Boys Bball.
6:00pm - Gym	5-6th Gr. Girls Bball.
6:00pm - Cafeteria	Step Class
7:00pm - Parish Office	HSA
8:30pm - Gym	Men's Club Bball.

Thursday, December 13

7:00am - Church	Mass
8:00am - Church	Mass
2:00pm - School	Dance Class
7:00pm - Church	Men's Prayer Group
7:00pm - Gym	School Pageant

Friday, December 14

7:00am - Church	Mass
3:00pm - Gym	7th Gr. Girls Bball.
4:15pm - Cafeteria	1st Gr. Girl Scouts

Saturday, December 15

7:00am - Church	Mass
8:00am - Cafeteria	Step Class
4:30pm - Church	Mass

Sunday, December 16

8:00am - Church	Mass
10:00am - Church	Mass

Fr. John's Digital Quill for Spiritual Musings and Parish News

This Advent Weekend

We welcome and thank our Girl Scouts for caroling after 4:30pm Mass, helping us to prepare for Jesus' coming.

Our prayers and support went out to our St. Philip Neri Choir who performed at Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville Saturday evening, December 8.

Lastly, we thank our Knights of Columbus for the Donut/Fellowship Sunday this weekend! See you over in the cafeteria!

A Letter from the Archbishop

This week, you should have received at your home a letter from Archbishop Carlson addressing the scandal in the Church. If you have not read it, I encourage you to read it this weekend. We are fortunate that our Archbishop has taken the time to write such a letter and I fully endorse and support its message.

Advent Penance Service

On Tuesday, December 11, at 7:00pm, we are having our Advent Penance Service. This is a time for us to come together as a parish community and reflect on our lives and how we can do better.

Confession can be disconcerting. It can bring up uncomfortable memories from when we were a child. It can cause questions about why we even have to go. We can wonder why a priest still thinks he has any right to hear confessions with all that is going on in the Church right now.

What confession is meant to be is a time when we bring our lives before the Lord, receive forgiveness and the grace to move ahead and change. The priest is meant to be a facilitator of this encounter. If you have not had such an experience in the past, I do apologize on behalf of the Church.

If it has been a while since you have come, do not be afraid! If you do not know the Act of Contrition or think you know the new (or old) one, we invite you to come! Let these things not hinder your receiving God's mercy. The priests who will be here are happy to help walk you through it.

If you cannot make it Tuesday, please remember our "Last Call" Confessions on December 23, 5:00-8:00pm. May this be a time of renewal for our parish this Advent.

School Christmas Program

On Thursday, December 13, our school children will be performing their annual Christmas program. We wish them well during this week of practices and send prayers for the success of their performance!

Eucharistic Adoration

Thank you to the many who have come to Adore the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament this week. It has been a grace-filled week! Please continue to sign up for the following weeks and continue to feel free to drop in.

Advent Visits by Fr. John

If you or someone you know would like a visit to bring Communion or to hear confession/receive the anointing of the sick, please give me a call. This period of preparation is a great time to receive these sacraments and calling soon will get the date on my calendar so I can make a visit before Christmas.

End of the Year Contributions

If you have an end of the year contribution, we ask that you bring it to the parish office no later than noon on December 30. This will give our parish staff sufficient time to deposit and record it for tax purposes. Thanks!

I will see you in Church! – Fr. John #SRAstrong

Schedule of Services: Advent 2018

Masses for Advent are according to the regular schedule.

Advent Family Reconciliation Service Tuesday, December 11 7:00pm

“Last Call” Reconciliation Sunday, December 23 5:00-8:00pm

Schedule of Services: Christmas Season 2018

Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24 4:30pm and 10:00pm

Christmas Day, Tuesday, December 25 8:00am and 10:00am

Weekend of December 29-30 (Feast of the Holy Family) Regular Weekend Mass Schedule

Feast of Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)

Monday, December 31 4:30pm Tuesday, January 1, 2019 8:00 and 10:00am



**LADIES' CLUB
CHRISTMAS PARTY**

The next Ladies’ Club meeting will be our annual Christmas Party and Gift Exchange and is scheduled for Thursday, December 20. If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, please bring a new, wrapped gift in the \$20-25 range. Also, we are asking for heavy hors d’oeuvres or desserts to share.

FROM ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

In today’s Gospel, John the Baptist urges us to “Prepare the way of Lord,” and this is what Advent is all about. We are called to help prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our own hearts, in our families, and in those who need. Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society (through the parish office) so that together we can help the suffering and poor to celebrate Christmas.

IN MEMORIAM

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Steve Kaiser, former parishioner, husband of Kim Kaiser, and father of 4, who passed away on Sunday, December 2. May his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 9

8:00am People of the Parish
10:00am Marcia Matreci

Monday, December 10

7:00am Ralph Raskas
8:00am Michelle Smelik

Tuesday, December 11

7:00am Ernie Winkelmann
8:00am Joan & Ed Albes

Wednesday, December 12

7:00am Lucille Karr
8:00am Arthur L. Loeffelman

Thursday, December 13

7:00am Richard Krus
8:00am Don Deachan

Friday, December 14

7:00am Neil Svetanics

Saturday, December 15

7:00am Roger Kreitler
4:30pm People of the Parish

SERVERS FOR DEC. 10-16, 2018

Monday, December 10

7:00am	Rory Barnawell	Mateo Switzer
8:00am	Eva Thompson	Jack Stein

Tuesday, December 11

7:00am	Gavin Smith	Justin Wingron
8:00am	Eva Thompson	Jack Stein

Wednesday, December 12

7:00am	Madalene Cierpiot	Sydney Browning
8:00am	Eva Thompson	Jack Stein

Thursday, December 13

7:00am	Isabella Pfeiffer	Cillian Sheehan
8:00am	Eva Thompson	Jack Stein

Friday, December 14

7:00am	Nahima Ramirez	Henry Cyr
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Saturday, December 15

7:00am	Madalene Cierpiot	Alex Atchison
4:30pm	Jack Stein	Mia Thompson
	Eva Thompson	

Sunday, December 16

8:00am	Joey Raymo	Cate Guenther
	Anna-Grace Guenther	
10:00am	William Hotze	Andrew Kellar
	Avery Bradshaw	

“And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value...”
PHILIPPIANS 1:9-10

Glittery holiday ads can blind us to our stewardship values and distort our needs and wants. It is important that during this season of endless buying we remember that each of us also has the need to give back to God and to those that are in need.

ADVENT GIVING TREE

Thanks to all our generous parishioners who took an ornament or two from the Advent Giving Tree. All gifts need to be returned to church no later than the 10:00am Mass on Sunday, December 16. Our parishioners will bring the gifts to Peter and Paul Community Outreach after the 10:00am Mass. God bless all who gave of their time and treasure to help those in need.

**MINISTERS/LECTORS FOR THE WEEKEND OF
 DECEMBER 15-16, 2018**

LECTORS

4:30pm	8:00am	10:00am
Steve Kratky	Kevin Liddy	Heather Hays

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Bob Ahrens	Lorraine Gurley	Joe Zulich
Maureen Ahrens	Sue Lawton	Dan Harbaugh
George Kerry	Amy Ruggeri	Amy Schisler
Margie Auer	Rosita Koehler	Anna Skidmore
Matt Fuhr	Christy Connor	
Tony Mariani	Kerry Deacon	

Your Contributions to God and Parish

December 2, 2018

(Envelopes Used)	This Week	FY to Date
Regular Env (112)	\$ 9,419.00	\$104,367.00
Loose Money	\$ 394.00	\$ 20,929.00
School Tuition Assistance	\$ 75.00	\$ 1,678.00
Building Fund	\$ 254.00	\$ 2,103.00
Holy Days	\$ 112.00	\$ 1,886.00
Online Giving	\$ 1,797.00	\$ 42,313.00
Tithing	(\$ 60.00)	
Seminary	(\$ 25.00)	
Church Building	(\$ 254.00)	
Christmas Flowers	(\$ 374.00)	
Thanksgiving	(\$ 15.00)	
Disaster Relief	(\$1,718.00)	
Grand Total	\$14,497.00	
Total for Parish	\$12,051.00	\$172,923.50
Amount Needed	\$ 9,000.00	\$206,000.00
Difference	\$ 3,051.00	(\$33,076.50)

Dear Blessed Bakers:



As we begin the sacred season of Advent, may you know that you are truly a light in the darkness of homelessness.

We have a plentiful donation of food for our brothers and sisters of the streets. For those donating for Saturday, December 15, please see the following information.

Drivers will be ready to receive your donations at 1:00pm in front of OLS Parish Hall (Faenger Hall). Please prepare your food as follows:

CASSEROLES (dinner or breakfast) should be cooked and then frozen, wrapped completely in foil for traveling in a car. Be sure to mark the main ingredients on the top.

DESSERTS should be wrapped completely in foil (NO plastic lids) for traveling in a car. Mark what kind on top.

For those who are not able to provide food in December, but would like to help in this ministry, **there is a desperate need for stocking caps and blankets.** Overnight shelters do not open unless it is 20 degrees or colder. Therefore, many are camping out on the streets in very cold weather with little to keep them warm. At our December 15 collection, we will gladly accept donations of stocking caps and blankets so that those who drive around at night can give them to the needy. If you have questions or need to make other donation arrangements, please call 314.374.1712. Thank you for your generosity in this ministry of life.



FELLOWSHIP (DONUT) SUNDAY

Please join your parish family for fellowship and a donut (or two!) this Sunday, after both the 8:00am and 10:00am Masses. This Fellowship (Donut) Sunday is sponsored by the SRA Knights of Columbus.

SAVE THE DATE - WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Saturday, February 9, 2019 after the 4:30pm Mass, there will be a reception for couples who are celebrating a milestone anniversary.

If you will be married this coming year (2019) for 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55 or 60-plus years, please call the parish office at 314.352.8100 or email us at parish@straphaelarchangel.org with your wedding date. We will place you on our list for an invitation. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.



Saint Louis
LIFETEEN

Attention, all high schoolers! Please join us this Wednesday, December 12, from 7-9pm at Bishop DuBourg as we continue to look at what it means to prepare for our Lord's coming at Christmas, 2018. For more information, see saintlouislifeteen.org.

School News



**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR
SECOND GRADERS WHO
MADE THEIR FIRST
CONFESSION ON
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28,
2018.**

MAY GOD BLESS THEM!



milk & cookies
with
Santa

Ministry List Updates

Would you like to start ministering at Mass as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion?

Would you like to help launder the purificators and other altar linens used daily at Mass?

If so, please contact the parish office. We need your help and appreciate it!

USE AMAZON SMILE FOR YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING AND SUPPORT SRA!

Use Amazon Smile and a percentage of your amazon purchase will go to SRA!! You must use the amazon smile website - smile.amazon.com - to make your purchase. From this site you select SRA as your recipient, log into your account, and start spending! Prime members and non prime members can participate - everyone can help SRA earn extra money every time you buy!!

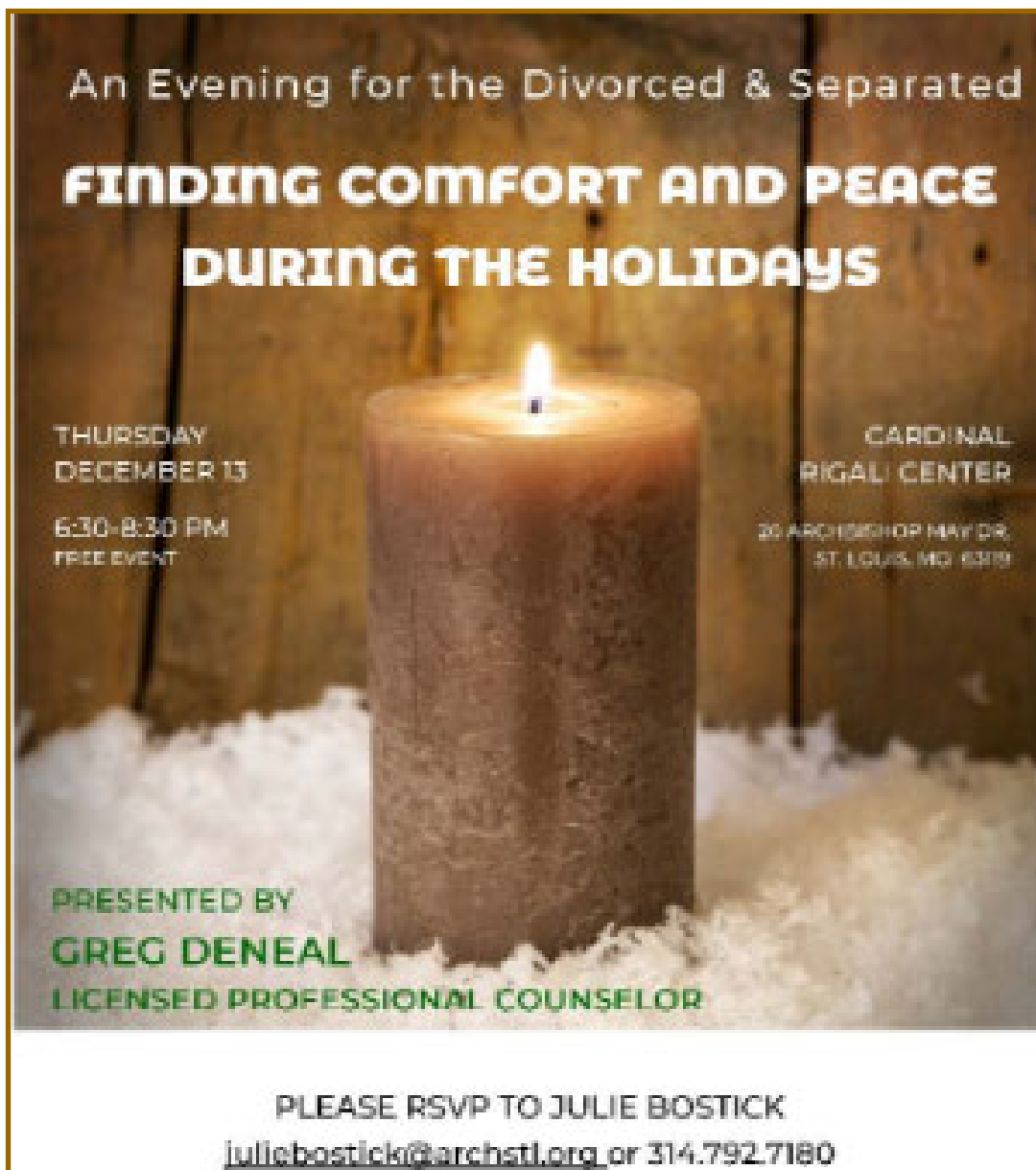
Eucharistic Adoration

Please do not forget to sign up for a slot for Eucharistic Adoration! Signing up is quick and easy:

- You can sign up right after Masses.
- You can visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040e44aba728a20-eucharistic>

The Eucharist will be exposed for Adoration in the Tobias Room from 3:00pm to midnight. You can visit anytime, but we need at least one person with the Blessed Sacrament always.

This is a wonderful opportunity to grow in holiness and intimacy with Our Lord this Advent Season! May God bless the time that you spend with Him.



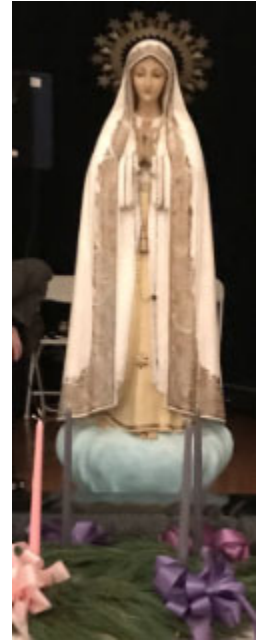
An Evening for the Divorced & Separated
**FINDING COMFORT AND PEACE
DURING THE HOLIDAYS**

THURSDAY
DECEMBER 13
6:30-8:30 PM
FREE EVENT

CARDINAL
RIGALI CENTER
20 ARCHBISHOP MAY DR.
ST. LOUIS, MO 63119

PRESENTED BY
GREG DENEAL
LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR

PLEASE RSVP TO JULIE BOSTICK
juliebostick@archstl.org or 314.792.7180



WEDDING

Congratulations to Nicole (SRA Class of 2008) and Jared Kaufman on their wedding day that took place on Saturday, November 3, 2018. May the Lord bless them with many happy years together, so they may enjoy the rewards of a good life.



OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

We all know the story of Juan Diego, to whom Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared in 1531. We know of the roses that fell from his cloak, or tilma, as Juan met with the bishop. As one of the numerous miraculous circumstances surrounding the appearance of Our Lady, that cloak, made of cactus fiber, should have disintegrated many years ago, but it is still whole and shows no sign of deterioration. We know that St. John Paul II canonized Juan Diego and declared Our Lady of Guadalupe the patroness of the Americas and of the unborn. As Sunday is the feast of St. Juan Diego (December 9), and as the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe approaches (December 12), let us pray to heal the divisions in our country and to increase reverence for Life.

May the Lord bless and keep all of us. The St. Raphael ProLife Committee



LIVE NATIVITY

See the Christmas story come to life with carolers, live animals, wise men, shepherds, angels, Mary and Joseph, and the baby Jesus.

Saturday, December 15, from 5:00pm to 9:00pm
Ascension Lutheran Church
5347 Donovan



Come share some Christmas joy & cheer
with the OLS community!

Friday, December 14th

6:45pm—unveiling of outdoor Christmas decorations

7:00pm—Christmas carol prayer service by Our Lady of Sorrows
choir joined by musical guest, *Gethsemane Lutheran Church Choir*

With message from *Pastor David Gipson, Tower Grove Church*

Reception to follow in the gym

ALL are welcome to celebrate the joyful season!

Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church

5020 Rhodes Ave * St. Louis, MO 63109

314-351-1600 * www.olsorrows.org

~ Fr. Sebastian & all at OLS



WELCOME TO ST. RAPHAEL'S PARISH FAMILY!

If you are new to our community, we extend to you a heartfelt welcome. Please fill out this form and place it in the collection basket or drop it off at the parish office. You can also call us at 314.352.8100.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please check the appropriate item(s):

New Parishioner

New Phone/Email/Address

Please Contact Me

Please Do Not Publish #