

SAINT RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

CATHOLIC CHURCH

MAY 28, 2017 ASCENSION SUNDAY

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKENDS:

Saturday at 4:30 pm

Sunday at 8:00 am & 10:00 am

WEEKDAYS:

Monday through Saturday 7:00 am

Monday through Thursday 8:00 am

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

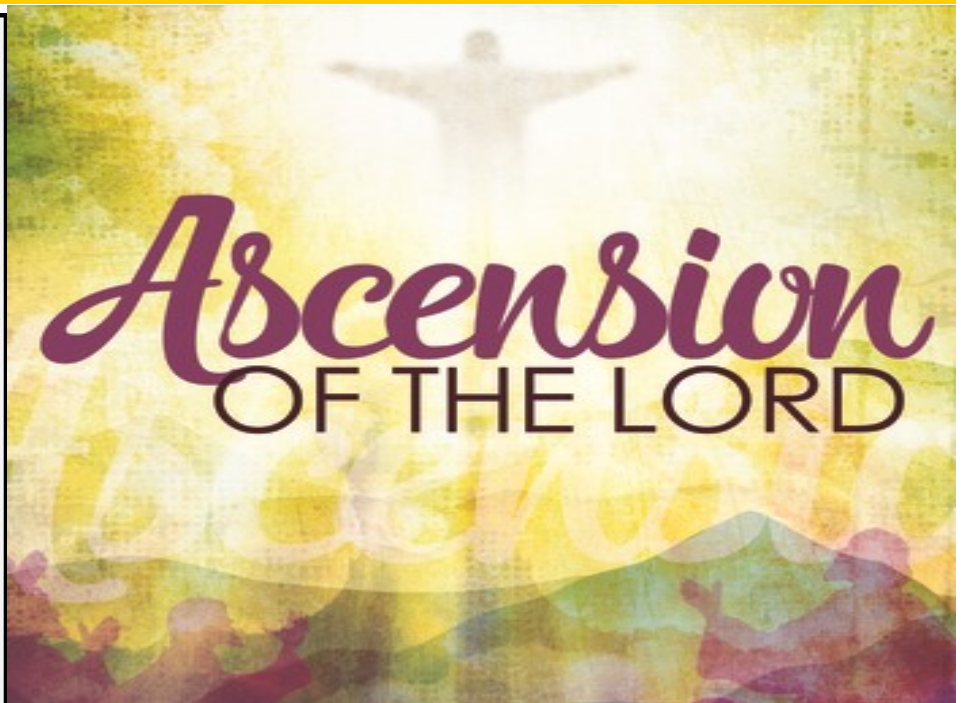
PERPETUAL HELP

DEVOTIONS

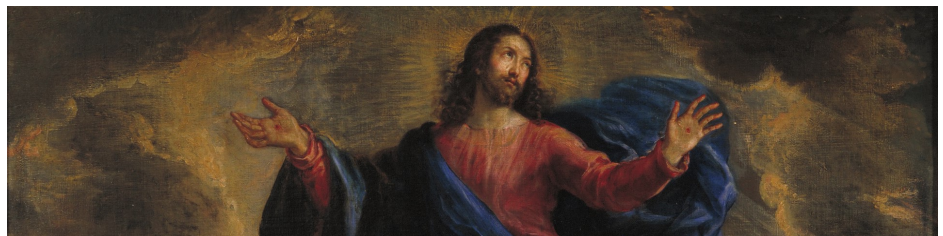
Tuesday mornings at 6:50 am

CONFESSIONS

15 minutes before 7 am Mass on Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday; and 4:00 pm to 4:25 pm on Saturday



*O God of earth and sky,
as Jesus came among us in Bethlehem to
raise us up to heaven,
so today we recall his departing from us at
Jerusalem to be in all places.
Though he is hidden from our sight,
enable us to abide in him
by the power and grace of the Holy Spirit,
until his mercy and grace fill your whole creation. Amen.*



CLERGY & STAFF

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

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

Deacon Roger Kreitler Retired Deacon

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

Mr. Josh Knauer Maintenance

Mrs. Kim Vangel School Principal
 vangel@straphaelarchangel.org

Mrs. Linda Mechler School Secretary
 secretary@straphaelarchangel.org

Mrs. Amy Ruggeri Cafeteria Manager

Parish Office 314.352.8100
School 314.352.9474

Facebook

Saint Raphael the Archangel Parish and School

Twitter

@SRAtoday

MyParishApp

Text 'App' to 88202

Website

straphaelarchangel.org

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Monday, May 29th

No 7:00 a.m. Mass	
8:00 am - Church	8:00 am Mass
7:00 pm - Cafeteria	Cub Scouts
7:00 pm - Raphael Room	Knights of Columbus

Tuesday, May 30th

5:30 pm - Gym	Softball
7:00 pm - Church	Rosary Recitation
7:30 pm - Tobias Room	Wild Goose Prst.

Wednesday, May 31st

9:00 am - Quilters' Room	Quilters
7:00 pm - Cafeteria	Boy Scouts
7:00 pm - Church/ Raphael Room	Choir Practice and Party

Thursday, June 1st

2:00 pm - School	Dance Class
5:30 pm - Gym	Softball
7:00 pm - Church	Cont. Music Group

Friday, June 2nd

8:30 am - Church	Adoration
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Saturday, June 3rd

4:30 pm - Church	Mass
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Sunday, June 4th

8:00 am - Church	Mass
10:00 am - Church	Mass
7:30 pm - Gym	Berns Basketball



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.

FATHER BOB'S COLUMN

FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD – TODAY

No! It is not Ascension Thursday anymore. Most of the American dioceses now celebrate this important feast day on the Sunday just prior to Pentecost, six weeks after Easter. The reason for this change years ago was that it was too important a feast to not have everyone present at Mass to celebrate this great mystery of our Lord leaving our earth and coming to “sit at the right hand of the Father” in heaven.

This feast brings our focus to an extremely important part of the mystery of the Incarnation – the Son of God taking on a human nature with a human body, “like us in all things but sin”. So when the Virgin Mary said Yes to the angel in Nazareth, the divine became human, and began to live among us, so that humans could be saved from their sins and justified before God. Thirty-three years later, the incarnate Son of God, with the fullness of his humanity, returned to God the Father, seated at his right hand, to rule over all of creation and his Mystical Body, the Church – you and I and so many others.

In a sense, the human has now become divine. One of our human family has made it bodily to heaven in the presence of God the Father. All of us now have the potential to do the same – our souls first to arrive in the presence of God, followed by our glorified bodies when Christ comes back to humanity at the end of time, the Final Judgment.

Can you now understand some aspects of the magnitude of the Feast of the Ascension?

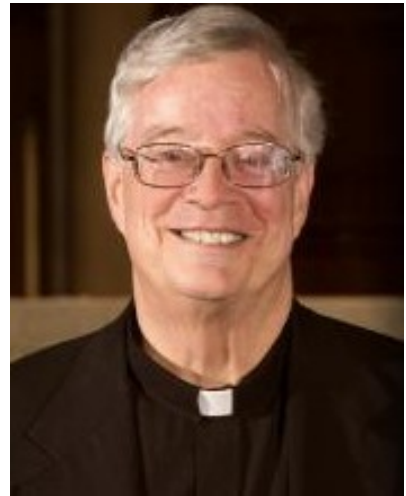
MEMORIAL DAY – MONDAY, MASS AT 8am!

This civic holiday should almost be a holy day, because we are praying for those who have died for the sake of our country. How many people talk about patriotism? Let's do something about being patriotic on Memorial Day by coming to this special Mass at 8am when we pray for the brave and dedicated souls who gave their lives for the rest of us in the U.S.A. We should have a crowd for Memorial Day Mass, not just the usual weekday congregation. Be a patriot by praying for our deceased patriots!

BIG CHANGE AT SRA! THE SRA RECTORY IS GAINING AN ADDITIONAL RESIDENT!

Monsignor Dennis Stehly, the newly appointed Vicar General in the Archdiocese, is coming to live here in the rectory. His primary responsibility will be to serve Archbishop Carlson as a leader in the Archdiocese of St. Louis. He will have his office just two doors down from the Archbishop at the Rigali Center. His duties will be to attend a lot of meetings, have a lot of appointments with key people, and to celebrate Confirmations in parishes and at the Cathedral.

Monsignor Stehly will move in around June 27th. He should be able to celebrate some of the 7am weekday Masses, occasionally a school Mass, and sometimes a Sunday Mass, here at St. Raphael's. I feel fortunate to have someone of the caliber of Monsignor Stehly here at SRA. He is coming from Ste. Genevieve, Missouri; before that he was pastor at Ascension Parish in Chesterfield and St. Margaret Mary Alacoque Parish in South County.



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SOMEONE NEED A SUMMER PROJECT TO HELP SRA PARISH?

I am looking for a volunteer or two to scrape and paint the black metal railing in front of the rectory. It could be a teen needing something to do. Maybe a father-son duo? Or maybe an early-retired person? There might be some other railings that need a coat of paint too. All for the greater glory and honor of God!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: *One of the great arts of living is the art of forgiving.*

SERVERS FOR MAY 22 - MAY 28

Monday - May 29

8:00 am Joseph Cyr Henry Cyr

Tuesday - May 30

7:00 a.m. Jake Kellar Andrew Kellar

Wednesday-May 31, June 1

7:00 am Jake Kellar Andrew Kellar

Friday - June 2

7:00 am Kristina Videmschek Joey Raymo

Saturday - June 3

7:00 am Anna Mersinger Mateo Switzer
4:30 pm Alex Atchison Isabella Pfeiffer
Gavin Smith

Sunday - June 4

8:00 am William Hotze Riley Willmann
Spencer Willmann
10:00 am Abby Delf Gillian Neal
Mady Shine

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday, May 28th

8:00 am People of the Parish
10:00 am Jane Bottini

Monday, May 29th

8:00 am Marcia Matreci

Tuesday, May 30th

7:00 am Mary W. Williams

Wednesday, May 31st

7:00 am Nancy Whelan

Thursday, June 1st

7:00 am Hutton-Jost Families

Friday, June 2nd

7:00 am Mary Lou Schicker

Saturday, June 3rd

7:00 am Joan Goltschman
4:30 pm Virginia Steck

Sunday, June 4th

8:00 People of the Parish
10:00 Don Deachan

WEEKEND OF JUNE 3/4, 2017

4:30 pm 8:00 am 10:00 am

LECTORS:

Ron Goedeker Lorraine Gurley Denise Howard

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Helen Doyle Lorraine Gurley Joe Zulich
Bob Ahrens Sue Lawton Dan Harbaugh
Maureen Ahrens Amy Ruggeri Mary Alice Goedeker
George Kerry Rosita Koehler Amy Schisler
Margie Auer Tony Mariani Lori Ashmore-Ruppel
Barbara Cramer Matt Fuhr
Anna Skidmore

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR MAY 20/21, 2017

Sunday Collection	\$4,969.00
Online Giving	\$1,427.00
Weekly Total Collection	\$6,396.00
Weekly Budget Goal	\$8,000.00
Fiscal Year-To-Date Total	\$352,344.00
Fiscal Year-To-Date Goal	\$376,000.00

Online Giving: To access our Online Giving Portal, go to straphaelarchangel.org/give/online-giving.

From ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Today, as we celebrate the feast of the Ascension, we are reminded that Christ's saving work on earth continues through his disciples, and now through us.

When we give to the poor, God indeed pours his love, peace and joy into our hearts, into our lives and through us into the hearts of those who are poor.

2017-2018 Parish Directory



LAST CHANCE!

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS WITH EVERY PARISH FAMILY

Each year St. Raphael publishes a parish directory with names and contact information of its parish-family members. The directory not only contains this information, but other helpful information about the parish and school. This is the “go to” book for all things about St. Raphael and is distributed free of charge to every family.

Would you like to be able to advertise your business directly with each family? We are in the process of updating the book and are offering you a chance to advertise your business in the directory. If you are interested, please contact the office at 314.352.8100 or by e-mail at parish@straphaelarchangel.org within the next two weeks for more information.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BEING PRESCHOOL HEAD ROOM PARENT FOR 2017-2018

This person will work directly with Jenny Delf, Head Room Parent, while overseeing the Preschool Room Parents. General duties include;

- Secure a room parent for each Preschool class
- Make sure all Preschool-room parents have completed Protecting God’s Children
- Check in on all classroom parties (Halloween, Christmas and Mardi Gras)
- Work with School Head Room Parent and PTA as needed

Requirements for this position:

- Must have completed Protecting God’s Children
- Have a child who has completed at least 1 semester at SRA Preschool (full or part time)
- Have at least 1 year remaining at SRA Preschool (one or more children)

If you are interested in submitting your name for this position, or have questions, please contact Jenny Delf at JenniferLdelf@gmail.com. All names will be put into a hat and drawn by a PTA board member at the next PTA meeting.

NEW PROCEDURE FOR RESERVING FACILITY SPACE AT SRA

Deacon Ron Holmes, in addition to his other administrative roles at SRA, will become the point person for all scheduling of events, meetings, and activities that use parish facilities. Every group requesting a space to be booked on the Parish Calendar should contact Deacon Ron – either online, by e-mail, telephone or coming to the Parish Office to fill out a request form. This should alleviate many of our scheduling issues.

Prayer for Memorial Day

God of power and mercy, you destroy war and put down earthly pride. Banish violence from our midst and wipe away our tears, that we may all deserve to be called your sons and daughters.

Keep in your mercy those men and women who have died in the cause of freedom and bring them safely into your kingdom of justice and peace. We ask this though Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



SCHOOL OF SAINT RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Formed in Faith, Prepared for Life

FAITH – St. Raphael the Archangel School guides its students as they form their knowledge of the Catholic faith and their love for Jesus Christ, in an environment that promotes compassionate hearts through habits of personal prayer, reflection, and community service.

CHARACTER – Our school and parish community endeavor to develop each student's character by modeling and practicing the cardinal virtues of prudence, justice, fortitude, and temperance. We nurture our students' perseverance, sense of gratitude, leadership, and ability to make informed moral choices.

ACADEMICS – We utilize a rigorous, measurable academic program that develops critical thinking skills, promotes imagination, celebrates individual gifts and talents, and fosters a life-long love of learning.

Small Design, BIG Results

THINK OF YOURSELF AS A RECRUITER FOR ST. RAPHAEL SCHOOL!

You are invited to actively recruit families from our area to enroll in our outstanding Catholic School. We have several openings in each grade level from first grade to eighth grade. There are only about two openings left in kindergarten; so anyone interested needs to act quickly. If you know someone who is interested, have that person call SRA School at 314.352.9474.

PRINCESS SUMMER DANCE CAMP AT ST. RAPHAEL SCHOOL

Summer Dance is offered on Thursdays, from June 8th through July 27th, from 2:00 pm to 2:45 pm. The session is for eight classes and the cost is \$80. Summer Dance offers: tap, ballet, jazz, pom, musical theater, & hip hop. It is for girls in preschool - 5th grade.

Dance Director Tina Stemmler is Dance Master Certified with a BA in Dance from Webster University. Please contact Miss Tina for more information at [314.680.2613](tel:314.680.2613).

SUMMER CAMP

Time is running out and so are spaces for St. Raphael summer camp. Please look on the web site so you can see the options you have for a fun-filled summer. Tell all your friends to look into St. Raphael's wonderful summer camp. See straphaelarchangel.org.

ST. RAPHAEL AFTERCARE

To all St. Raphael parents, who are interested in aftercare for the school year 2017-2018, aftercare for the older kids only is full on Wednesdays. Preschool has all days open. All the other days are available. Please contact the school for more information.

PRINCIPAL'S COLUMN

Dear St. Raphael School Families and Parishioners,

With a mix of many feelings and emotions, I write my final Principal Column to all of you. First, I want to thank the multitude of parishioners and parents who have been so supportive of me and who have expressed that support in so many ways over these past 5 years. I am so grateful for you and all of the assistance you have provided.

I have been blessed to work with a tremendous faculty at St. Raphael, and I sincerely hope that they will continue to be valued and respected here; the teachers at St. Raphael work harder than any teachers I have ever seen and you are fortunate to have them. I ask you to please trust their professionalism and educational expertise as they work above and beyond the call of duty for the sake of your children.

I am very proud of the positive changes we have made at St. Raphael School over these past 5 years, best demonstrated by the nearly unbelievable increase in our students' standardized test scores. I consider these achievements to be the result of numerous actions:

- Getting the right teachers into the right places within the school,
- Implementing Standards-Based Grading,
- Achieving professional development for teachers,
- Re-writing the curriculum, and
- Creatively upgrading the instructional resources used to teach in our classrooms.

While not all of you have agreed with or liked some of these changes, I believe that they are all contributing to our students' success.

I feel confident that St. Raphael School has been steered back onto the path of achievement, and I am assured that Mrs. Julie Hayes will continue leading St. Raphael on that path. I ask you to trust Mrs. Hayes and to support her decisions and actions. She and the faculty are here to work WITH you, not against you. They are here to SUPPORT your children, not to undermine them. I ask you to resist second guessing her every move, criticizing every decision, engaging in gossip about the principal and/or teachers that can engulf a small community like St. Raphael - all actions that would weaken the partnership between you and the school, and they will hurt your children in the end. Now is the time to stay strong as a school community and to hold one another to the highest level of behavior for the sake of our school.

I will miss so many of you, and I wish you all the best. I look forward to hearing about continued triumphs at St. Raphael the Archangel School. Please keep me in your prayers as I transition to St. Clare of Assisi School, and drop in to see me if you are ever in Ellisville!

Peace,

Kim Vangel

Principal

SAVE THE DATE

From ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Save the date! On Saturday, September 16, we will have a collection truck on our parking lot for your gently used discards to be given to St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store.

Upcoming

EVENTS

Sat. June 3	Croquet Tournament
Wed. June 7	Servers' Picnic
Sun. June 11	Donut Sunday
Sun. June 18	Corpus Christi Procession
Sun. June 18	Father's Day

*The St. Raphael Wicket Club cordially invites you
to the biennial croquet tournament*

Saturday, June 3rd, 2017

1:00 Post Meridian Prompt

at the home of Ben and Jennifer Delf

Hors d'oeuvres, Beverages and Dessert Provided

\$45.00 per person

Proper Attire Required

Sign up and more information to come!

Hosted by the Niebling Family and Delf Family



BIBLE STUDY



Bible Study continues on Tuesday afternoons at 1:30 pm in the Lower Level of the Parish Office. No need to sign up; just come.

PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY

Do you know of a neighbor or parishioner who is physically unable to receive the sacraments due to an inability to physically attend Mass? If so, please contact us with a name or the name of a caregiver so we can reach out to help. Please respond by calling the parish office, or by calling or emailing Mary Faith Green at 314.832.3310 or greenfamily7@sbcglobal.net.

STLYA THEOLOGY ON TAP

This summer, join young adults from across the archdiocese for our Theology on Tap Summer Six Pack (five left) – evenings of engaging talks, drink specials, and great community: June 13, June 27, July 11, July 25, and August 8. All talks held at 7:00 pm at Kirkwood Station Brewing Co. Featured speakers will be Archbishop Carlson, Paul Masek (Director of the REAP Team), Deacon Ryan Adorjan (Diocese of Joliet, IL), Liz Miller, Matt Faley (musicians), and various priests from the Archdiocese. Email stlya@archstl.org or call 314.792.7008.

**CONGRATULATIONS, FRANNIE BENOIST (SRA 2017),
WINNER OF THE GENEROSITY ESSAY SCHOLARSHIP!**

Living Generosity

God has blessed me with many gifts. I am lucky to have ten fingers and ten toes, walking legs, a working brain, and a beating heart. I am lucky to be filled with love, hope, and faith. It is my honor and duty to take these gifts and use them for good. I generously give back to the world through my time, talent, and talk.

Giving my time to others is the start of my generosity. There is always time to share a smile, handshake, or hug. There is always time to listen and be there in times of happiness and sadness. I am also generous with my time by spending it at St. Vincent DePaul. I make it my goal to serve dinner to the homeless. To be able to give a few hours of my time to put smiles on faces and meals in stomachs means a lot to them and to me. Generosity has powerful effects on those who give it and receive it. While here on Earth, I want to spend my time being a living example of this generosity.

In addition to time, I give talent. Pope Francis states, "I would ask the many young people to be generous with their God-given talents for the good of others." Since I have been bestowed the talent of dancing, I have the opportunity to be generous on and off the stage. On the stage, I share my passion, strength, and love of the art of dance. Off the stage, I spend over twenty hours a week at my studio teaching and learning. Every hour I spend dancing, I work my hardest to use dance not only for myself but for others as well. Like my dance teachers, I know sharing dance is what I am called to do. Sharing my talent of dance continues to make my dance team stronger. Together, we showcase our talents aiming to build each other up and bringing joy to others. I hope to always live generously through dance.

Lastly, I give talk. Although there are countless actions that can show generosity, I never underestimate the power of words. God gave me the gift to talk to those around me, so I use my words to build others up. I use my voice in a positive way to motivate others and change their mindset about life. Saying "thank you" or "I love you" can change someone's day. In addition to talking to my family and friends, I remember to talk to God. I make sure that I take time out of my day to speak to Him. These times of prayer fill my heart and soul and let me give praise. A simple conversation with God, a family member, or a friend allows me to be generous from the heart and spread joy.

Generosity lives and grows in me. I know that I am accomplishing what God wants me to do and I am confident that I can make a difference. It is my responsibility to give. It is through my time, talent, and talk that I will continue to show generosity and shine my light in the world.



Saint Louis
LIFETEEN

**ATTENTION ALL EIGHTH GRADERS AND HIGH
SCHOOLERS:**

Please join us this Wednesday, May 31st, from 7-9p;m at Bishop DuBourg as we have our SUMMER KICKOFF! You are always welcome for prayer, community, and fun!. For more information, please see saintlouislifeteen.org.



Help people who are homeless or at risk. Make plans to attend the St. Patrick's Center Irish Open Gala and Golf Tournament. The Gala will be June 3 at Grand Hall at St. Louis Union Station and the Golf Tournament will be held June 5 at Norwood Hills Country Club. For reservations, contact Katie Joseph at 314.802.1976 or kjoseph@stpatrickcenter.org.



BLESSINGS TO ALL!

Blessing of new servers on Wednesday, May 24, 2017 (left to right):

Gavin Smith
Joey Raymo
Jack Stein
Riley Willmann
Alex Atchison

And a blessing for **all SRA's excellent servers**. Thank you to everyone for participating in this very important ministry.



SRA PARISH LEADERSHIP AND MINISTRY MEETING WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 2017 AT 7:00PM RAPHAEL ROOM

This is a very important meeting for the leader(s) of every SRA Parish organization or ministry to attend. If a leader cannot attend, you must delegate someone else. We will be learning more about each other's groups and how each group shows good stewardship of time and talent in service to the St. Raphael Parish and the community.

