

## MASS SCHEDULE

### WEEKENDS

Saturday at 4:30pm

Sunday at 8:00am & 10:00am

### WEEKDAYS

Monday through Saturday 7:00am

Monday - Thursday 8:00am

## CONFESIONS

15 minutes before 7:00am Mass on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday

Saturday 3:45pm to 4:20pm

Confessions also available by appointment.

## EUCARISTIC 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

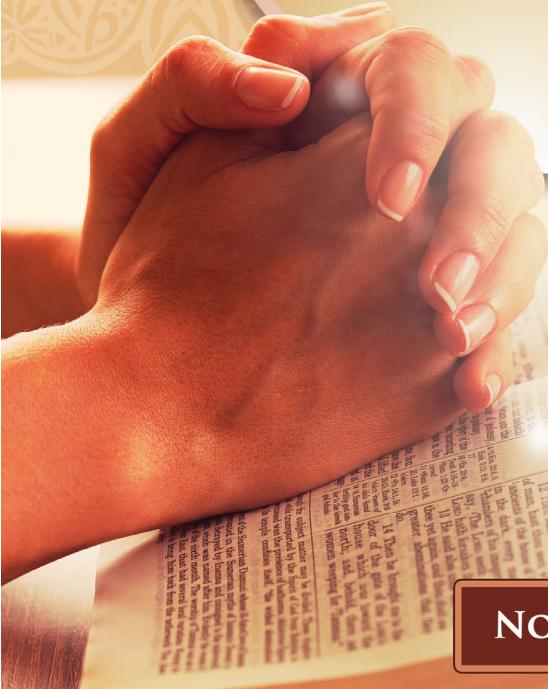
CATHOLIC CHURCH

NOVEMBER 18, 2018

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*Heaven and earth  
will pass away,  
but my words  
will not pass away.*

MARK 13:31



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NOVEMBER 18, 2018

## 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."*



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

### *The USCCB Meeting*

I am sure that we were all dismayed by the news out of Washington, DC, this week that, after gathering and being ready to take action, the US Bishops were asked by the Vatican not to do anything on the issue of clergy sexual abuse. Instead, they were asked to wait until February when there would be a meeting of the bishops of the world in Rome about the situation.

We can be proud this week of our Missouri Bishops, who released their letter to the USCCB committee in charge of protecting minors, calling for strong action on this topic. This letter was written in October in preparation for the meeting and was signed by all of the Bishops of the State of Missouri.

Cardinal DiNardo, President of the USCCB, spoke right after he received news of the decision by the Holy Father. In it, he called for the Church in the United States to resist falling into despair. Despair is a sin that believes that there is no hope, which is contrary to the message of the Resurrection. Further, he called us to resist the sin of presumption, which says that this situation will not be addressed in any new way.

Remaining hopeful for action by the Bishops of the United States is certainly a struggle. I would invite you to keep this intention in prayer daily, particularly by praying the St. Michael Prayer. St. Michael triumphed over the evil one by his declaration, "Who is like God?" May this great heavenly defender come to the aid of our Church at this hour.

Further, I would encourage you during this holiday time to practice a bit of penance for the Church. This is something that I have been doing personally since the news of the recent scandal broke and I invite you to join me. Refraining from a dessert we enjoy, refusing alcohol at a social gathering, or skipping a meal seems to be so little, but these small penances can have great spiritual fruit for us and for the Church.

Remember: Jesus is still Lord and He has promised the Church that the gates of Hell will not prevail against her. He calls us to do our part in this great work of salvation of the world. May we not shy away from this task or fall into despair, but take up the cross and follow our Lord.

### *Racism*

Archbishop Carlson has asked each parish to conduct a prayer service about the issue of racism during the month of November. I will do this at the Men's and Ladies' Clubs this month. For us all, though, here is a reflection from the United States bishops on this topic entitled, "Fighting Our Inner Demon."

Racism is an inner demon. This inner demon infects our soul as a nation, and attacks each of us individually. It is ugly; it is real; it is sinful. The inner demon of racism is that voice that whispers in our hearts "be wary of them."

The inner demon of racism is that thought that says "stick with your own kind."

The inner demon of racism is that temptation to lash out against those who are different so that we have someone to blame when we feel frustrated or afraid. These thoughts, and others like them, are how racism infects our hearts. It grows from there because we feed it; we let it fester unchecked in our minds, poisoning our souls. We are all infected with this inner demon.

How should we respond? Simple: Pray for the strength to overcome this demon by the power of Christ. Fight the temptation of prejudice with the truth that God created only one race of people – the human race. And what he created is good. Each person is unique and different, but all are part of the human family – a diversity of peoples that together reveal the glory of God. When we tell that to the inner demon, he has nowhere to go but to flee.

### *From the Hip-Hip and Hooray Department*

Congratulations to our 5th Grade and 7th Grade Boys and 8th Grade Girls Volleyball teams for making it into the playoffs. Also congratulations go out to the 6th Grade Girls for coming in 2nd in their division!

Go SRA!

### *Thanksgiving Day*

On Thursday, we will be celebrating Thanksgiving. We will have one Mass that day at 8:00am.

The collection we will take up will go to benefit our St. Vincent de Paul Society solely, as it works to help our needy neighbors. Please be generous to those who are in need.

## **Fr. John's Column (Continued)**

### *A Prayer in Thanksgiving*

Father in Heaven, Creator of all and source of all goodness and love, please look kindly upon us and receive our heartfelt gratitude in this time of giving thanks.

Thank you for all the graces and blessings you have bestowed upon us, spiritual and temporal: our faith and religious heritage, our food and shelter, our health, the love we have for one another, and our family and friends.

Dear Father, in Your infinite generosity, please grant us continued graces and blessings throughout the coming year.

This we ask in the Name of Jesus, Your Son and our Brother. Amen.

(From: <https://www.catholic.org/prayers/prayer.php?p=492>)

### *Advent by Candlelight*

Speaking of Advent, ladies, Advent by Candlelight is also back this year. Fr. Matt O'Toole, a former Associate here at SRA and Great Preacher of the Year 2018, will be back to lead us in growing closer to the Lord this Advent. Make plans to be there!

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

### **FROM ST. VINCENT FUNDRAISER NUT SALE!**

- 1 lb. Pecan Halves - \$11
- 1 Lb. Pecan Pieces - \$10
- 1 Lb. English Walnuts - \$8
- 1 Lb. Gourmet Mix - \$10
- 1 Lb. Salted Cashews - \$10
- 12 Oz. Praline Pecans \$9

Order forms can be found in church. Order deadline is November 25 with delivery in mid-December. If you have any questions, please contact Patti Webers at [pwebers@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pwebers@sbcglobal.net) or 314.496.8836.

## **SAVE THE DATE!**



December 2, 2018

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Please contact Carrie McMorrow with any questions or if you would like to volunteer, 314.750.4130 or [carriem0180@gmail.com](mailto:carriem0180@gmail.com).

## **FROM ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY**

In the Gospel today, Jesus tells us: “But of that day or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.”

Through your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul you can show your love for our Lord and your neighbor who is hungry, hopeless, alone and frightened.

## **SAVE THE DATE - WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

Saturday, February 9, 2019 after the 4:30 pm 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](mailto: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.





## WINTER OUTREACH - A MINISTRY OF MERCY

With gratitude to all the SRA parishioners who make this ministry possible year after year, we are encouraged by our Catholic Social Teachings: "*Option for the Poor and Vulnerable.*" Our Parish Community is truly committed to making St. Louis Winter Outreach a faith 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)

As winter approaches, many homeless "brethren" will be spending their days and nights on the streets of St. Louis. In an effort to give them some comfort, we are asking for help in providing meals during the coldest months. Drivers are also needed to deliver the meals to Americorps Shelter (1315 Ann Street) on our assigned Saturdays:

December 15   January 19   February 16

Please consider assisting the Ministry of Mercy by providing one or more of the following:

9 x 13 Casserole (Meat, Vegetable or Breakfast)

Dessert - 12 to 24 Servings



Food is to be dropped off at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish Hall by 1:00 pm. If needed, arrangements can be made to pick it up from your home. If you would like more information, would like to share a dish, and/or be a driver, please contact Mary Ellen Mueller at 314.374.1712 or email [maryem@brick.net](mailto:maryem@brick.net).

### ST. PATRICK CENTER CHRISTMAS HELP

The St. Patrick Center Christmas Wishes program assists more than 500 individuals and families who have little or no money to purchase Christmas gifts for their children. Thanks to all who are sponsoring families this Christmas season! We currently need donations of \$20 Target gift cards for single clients in our Shamrock Club Day Treatment Program. To donate gift cards, contact Katie Joseph at 314.802.1976 or [kjoseph@stpatrickcenter.org](mailto:kjoseph@stpatrickcenter.org)

### STEWARDSHIP WEEKEND NEW AND EXPECTANT MOTHERS NETWORK

On November 17 and 18, we will hear from a representative of SRA's New and Expectant Mothers Network as part of the Stewardship initiative, whereby we become a stronger parish family when we share our time and talent. If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact Elena Switzer.



If you prefer to share your time and talent with other SRA committees, there are many more to choose from. Please see the parish directory for opportunities, or contact one of the Stewardship Committee members for further details. Stewardship Committee members are Maureen Ahrens, Rob Dirnbeck, Maggie Fuhr, Pam Hager, George Kerry, and Erin Pinkerton.

All phone numbers can be found in the parish directory. Thank you.

We will NOT be having Life Teen this Wednesday, Nov. 21. Enjoy Thanksgiving with your family and we will see you back on Nov. 28! For more information, see [saintlouislifeteen.org](http://saintlouislifeteen.org)

# School News School News

## THANK YOU TO OUR VETERANS

Thank you to the Veterans who joined us for our celebration honoring those who have served our country, to the fifth grade students for coordinating such a special celebration, and to the musicians who enriched the Mass with patriotic songs that filled us with the Spirit.

## AFTERCARE HELP NEEDED

SRA Aftercare is looking for an adult to work in aftercare. This is a full time position, Monday through Friday, 3-6:00 pm. Applicants must be 21 or older, responsible, and most of all, love to be with children. If interested, please contact Molly Indelicato at [indelicato@straphaelarchangel.org](mailto:indelicato@straphaelarchangel.org).



# **ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT**

## **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2ND 6:00PM - ST. RAPHAEL GYM**

Advent by Candlelight is an invitation for women to step away from hectic Christmas activities and instead focus on the inner preparation which is the purpose of the Advent season in readying our hearts and homes to receive the gift of the infant Jesus.

The evening opens with hostesses greeting their guests and general visiting among all those present. Then it continues with a short prayer service, followed by sharing of light hors d'oeuvres or dessert provided by each hostess for her particular table, and concludes with a guest speaker who never fails to inspire us.



We are very excited this year to have Fr. Matt O'Toole as our speaker. Fr. O'Toole currently serves as pastor at St. Margaret of Scotland. An avid student of history with a great appreciation for art, literature, and popular entertainment, Fr. O'Toole weaves these elements into his preaching to create a tapestry of meaning and makes the Gospel of Christ and the Catholic faith relevant and meaningful. He was the recent recipient of the 2018 Great Preacher Award. He's also a native of South St. Louis (St. Joan of Arc Parish) and served as associate pastor of St. Raphael the Archangel from 1996-2001.

Please consider being a table hostess and treating your friends, relatives or neighbors to this special event. The duties of a table hostess include reserving a table, inviting up to 7 guests (8 people per table), decorating your table and providing table settings and light appetizers/desserts for your guests. More detailed information will be given to each hostess.

We are encouraging hostesses to keep their food very simple in trying to keep with our desire to offer a less stressful, more peaceful and enjoyable evening among friends. This is a FREE event, but we will take up a collection for our parish if you would like to contribute that evening.

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### **ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT RESERVATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to be a Table Hostess. I want to invite others to sit with me. The people listed below will automatically be registered to be seated at my table. (Hostess information will be sent to you.)

Hostess \_\_\_\_\_ Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Guest \_\_\_\_\_ Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Guest \_\_\_\_\_ Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Guest \_\_\_\_\_ Guest \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to register as an individual and would like to be placed at any table where there is room.

If possible please seat me with \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return reservation form to Rachel Flavin 5940 Highfield Rd, 63109 or email reservation to ladies @straphaelarchangel.org. Questions? Call Rachel, 314.496.8303.**

# MAGNIFICAT WOMEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

*My soul magnifies the Lord, my spirit finds joy in God my Savior... God who is mighty has done great things for me, holy is His name." - Luke 1:46-49*

In these words of the Magnificat, Mary proclaimed to Elizabeth her gratitude for the wonderful action of God in her life. Please join us at the quarterly prayer breakfasts for Catholic women of the archdiocese of St. Louis. Share together the spirit of gratitude and woman's experience of the transforming love of Christ in her own life.

Come and bring a friend to rejoice in the presence of the Lord. December 8th, 8:30 am registration, 9am - 12pm breakfast and speaker. Kim Stanley will be our speaker. The cost is \$20. For more information and registration call the Catholic Renewal Center at 314-731-6100 or email [catholicrenewal@archstl.org](mailto:catholicrenewal@archstl.org)



## BUY SCRIP CARDS AND SUPPORT SRA!!

Time to order your SCRIP cards for December! Order forms and payment will be due to the school office on the first Friday of the month and orders will be ready for pick up or sent home with your student the following Friday. Payment must be cash or check (made out to SRA HSA).

Upcoming Fall turn-in dates:     **December 7, 2018**

The list includes some of the most popular retailers; a complete list can be found at [shopwithscrip.com](http://shopwithscrip.com).

Thank you for supporting SRA!! Contact Mary Anne Potts with any questions, [maryannetpotts@gmail.com](mailto:maryannetpotts@gmail.com), 314.482.1907.



## ST. MATTHIAS FALL CRAFT FAIR

Saturday, November 24

9:00am - 4:00pm

800 Buckley Road

Various Handcrafted Items, Concessions,  
Baked Goods, Raffles  
314.892.7500

## PAUSE & PRAY

# Advent Taize Service



DECEMBER 16, 4 P.M.

ST. RICHARD

Music by St. Richard Chorale,  
accompanied by harps, flute,  
guitar, violin, and hand bells.

11223 Schuetz Road  
St. Louis, MO 63146



## 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 #

## *Our Lady of Guadalupe and the Tilma of Saint Juan Diego: Cultural, Scientific and Theological Considerations*

### YOU ARE INVITED

Please join us for an afternoon under the protection of **Our Lady of Guadalupe** as we explore together the miraculous aspects of the tilma of Saint Juan Diego and the influence of Our Lady of Guadalupe as an Icon of a New Church and of a New America. Two noted speakers, Dr. David Keys and Father Bruce Nieli, CSP, will lead us to a deeper appreciation of the event at Tepeyac Hill, not only for the people of the time but for all people for all time.

The event will be held at the Cardinal Rigali Center, this Sunday afternoon, November 18, from 2:00 to 5:00pm. Fees: Early Bird: \$20.00; after November 12: \$25.00; at the door: \$30.00. For information and/or registration, contact Sr. Marianne Postiglione, RSM, at 314.792.7221 or [mariannepost@archstl.org](mailto:mariannepost@archstl.org).

## ST. LOUIS HILLS CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING



Sunday, November 25  
7:00 - 9:00pm

Horse-drawn carriage rides, hot  
drinks, cookies,  
and visits by Santa and Mrs.  
Claus!