

St. Raphael the Archangel

NEWSLETTER FOR PARISHES NAMED FOR ST. RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL TO
EXCHANGE IDEAS ON ENCOURAGING UNDERSTANDING AND DEVOTION

The Newsletter

By Frederick A. Hodes

This is the twenty-second issue of the *St. Raphael Newsletter*, whose purpose is to share information about devotion to our patron, St. Raphael the Archangel. Immediately after Vatican II, devotional practices to saints fell out of fashion. In recent years, devotion to and prayers requesting the intercession of the saints and angels have become more prevalent. This newsletter hopes to encourage ideas about devotion to the Archangel Raphael.

This issue contains the news that the St. Raphael parish in Hawaii celebrated its 175th anniversary last year! There is a Canadian National Historic Site that is the ruin of a St. Raphael Church. Perhaps, you have seen the St. Raphael Parish prayer printed in this issue; if not, you might consider using it in your bulletin. Our parish printed it and distributed copies to parishioners. Also, there is a note about St. Raphael in St. Louis. Also, take note of the St. Raphael Fox News connection as indicated. Finally, we are reprinting the St. Raphael Hymn that appeared in earlier editions.

Thanks to everyone who has sent Sunday bulletins and newsletters in the past years; also, several parishes have sent us their anniversary books. Prayers and devotional items along with religious art of all forms remain our main focus, although we do enjoy receiving and sharing articles about St. Raphael parishes and their news.

We need your input. Please share with us any devotional items such as pictures of statues, stained glass windows, and other forms of artwork. We especially hope for original compositions of prayers or hymns. The *Newsletter* also invites parishes to send copies of their Sunday bulletins so we can learn about the various St. Raphael parishes around the United States.

Please send us the program for your celebration of the feast of St. Raphael or any devotional materials you may have. If your parish is celebrating an anniversary, please let us know so we can share it with other St. Raphael parishes. Email your parish news to fhodes@msn.com.

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St. Raphael the Archangel in Hawaii

How many St. Raphael parishes have been in existence for 175 years?

After last year's *Newsletter*, Fr. Arlan Intal, MS, informed us of his parish's anniversary. In 2016 St. Raphael Church in Koloa, Hawaii, celebrated its 175th anniversary. The church, founded on December 25, 1841, was established to serve immigrant workers from the Koloa sugar plantation.

St. Raphael Ruin

There exists a Canadian Historic Site that is the ruin of a St. Raphael Church. In 1786 Gaelic-speaking Catholic Highlanders settled in Ontario, South Glengarry, and for years the church served as an administrative center for the Catholic Church in Upper Canada. During the early 19th Century this St. Raphael Church was the largest parish in the region.

In 1970 fire destroyed the church's roof, steeple, and interior. Left standing were the stone walls. Parishioners preserved the ruin and built a new church against a corner of one of the old walls.

The ruin became a Heritage property under the Ontario Heritage Act in 1974. Then in 1999, the Canadian government declared the ruins a National Historic Site.

Newsletter on the WEB

Some past issues of this *Newsletter* are now on the web. See them on the St. Louis St. Raphael web site:

straphaelarchangel.org

Hopefully, these may prove helpful to St. Raphael Churches across the country. Many issues have prayers asking the intercession of the Archangel Raphael. Others present various artistic representations of the archangel. These include statues, stained glass windows, paintings, and various images on prayer cards or in bulletins. In addition, there are various articles highlighting different St. Raphael parishes across our country, plus a few from foreign countries.

Please send St. Raphael prayers, devotions, pictures, sketches of artwork – traditional or modern – so we can share these with other St. Raphael parishes.

Please send to:

**Church of
St. Raphael the Archangel
6047 Bishops Place
St. Louis, MO 63109
(Attention: Historical Society)**

Prayer For St. Raphael Parish

I Am St. Raphael Parish.

*Dear Lord, St. Raphael Parish is
composed of
people like me. I help make St. Raphael
what it is and what it can be.*

It will be friendly, if I am.

It will be holy if I am.

It will be prayerful, if I am.

It will do great work, if I work.

*Its pews will be filled,
if I come and help fill them.*

*It will reach out to others to worship,
if I invite and bring them.*

*It will do generous ministry,
if I am a generous giver.*

*It will be a parish of loyalty and love,
if I am loyal to it and love all its members.*

*It will be a parish of compassion, charity,
and
mercy, if I am filled with these virtues.*

*Therefore, with the help of God,
I now dedicate myself to the task of
being all things I want my parish to be!*

For I am St. Raphael Parish!

Amen.

St. Raphael in St. Louis

St. Raphael in St. Louis (founded in 1950) continues to celebrate the 50th anniversary of its new church building. This year, at our 10:00 a.m. Mass, on Sunday, November 5, the parish will celebrate the anniversary of its first Mass said in the new structure.

Would You Believe!

For about four seconds St. Louis's St. Raphael church and exterior statue appeared on the Fox News Channel without caption or attribution. During the last segment of the Tucker Carlson Show, the commentator spoke about the public perception of portions of society and their support of the national good. He ended the segment by stating that all agree that organized religion promotes the national good. As he spoke, a sketch of a church spire appeared; and then, a photo of a church with a statue. The photo focused on our statue of Archangel Raphael and Tobiah with a portion of our church behind it! One never knows when a picture on the WEB will be used as "clip art"!

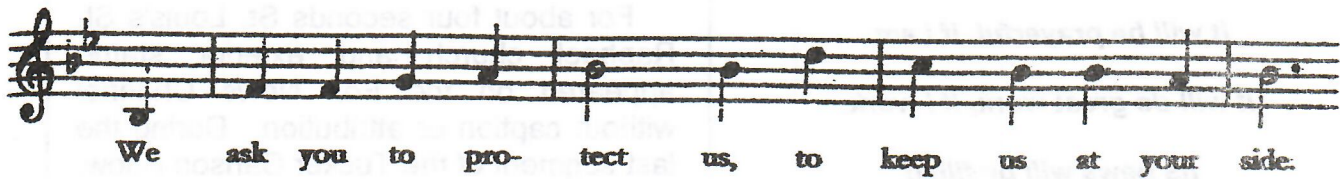
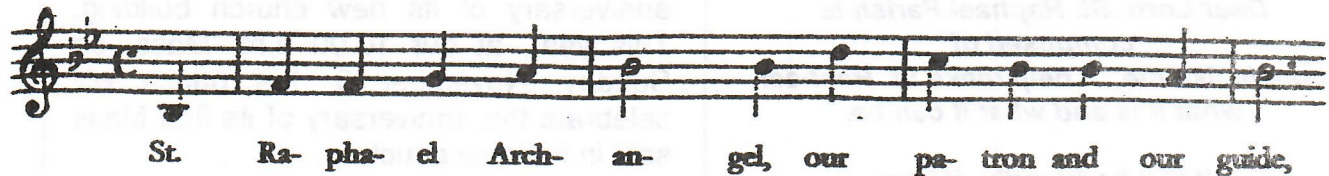
St. Raphael Hymn

Page four contains a hymn to St. Raphael the Archangel. Although the *Newsletter* has printed it before, there appear to be no other such hymns, so it appears again. Feel free to use it. The composer has not copyrighted it.

ST. RAPHAEL ARCHANGEL

Music: Melchior Teschner

Words: Carol Hodes



1. Our gra-cious God sent you to earth, to an-swer To-bi's call.
2. A de-mon rout-ed, wealth re-stored, a mar-riage blest a-bove;
3. You stand be-fore God's throne on high, to serve God faith-ful-ly;



1. You helped To-bi-ah in his quest, with lov-ing care for all.
2. The blind-ness healed, the truth re-vealed, in God's own end-less love.
3. You man-i-fest God's love for us, through all e-ter-ni-ty.