

# SAINT RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Third Sunday of Advent  
December 13, 2020

## Reading I

**Is. 61:1-2A, 10-11**

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the LORD and a day of vindication by our God.

I rejoice heartily in the LORD, in my God is the joy of my soul; for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation and wrapped me in a mantle of justice, like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem, like a bride bedecked with her jewels. 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.

## Responsorial Psalm

**Lk. 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54**

**R. (Is 61:10b) My soul rejoices in my God.**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked upon his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed:

**R. My soul rejoices in my God.**

The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name. He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.

**R. My soul rejoices in my God.**

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

**R. My soul rejoices in my God.**

## Reading II

**1 Thes 5:16-24**

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will also accomplish it.

## Gospel

**Jn. 1:6-8, 19-28**

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light.

And this is the testimony of John. When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to him to ask him, "Who are you?" He admitted and did not deny it, but admitted, "I am not the Christ." So they asked him, "What are you then? Are you Elijah?" And he said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No." So they said to him, "Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us? What do you have to say for yourself?" He said: "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'make straight the way of the Lord,'" as Isaiah the prophet said." Some Pharisees were also sent. They asked him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." This happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

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

**CLERGY & STAFF**

<b>Fr. John Mayo</b>	Pastor
	frjohn@straphaelarchangel.org
<b>Msgr. Dennis Stehly, VG</b>	Priest-In-Residence
	dennisstehly@archstl.org
<b>Deacon Gerald J. Geiser</b>	Retired Deacon
<b>Mr. and Mrs. Ray and</b>	Music Ministers
<b>Mary Anne Braun</b>	
<b>Mrs. Diane Halbert</b>	Parish Office Manager
	halbert@straphaelarchangel.org
<b>Mrs. Mickey Janos</b>	Admin. Assistant
	janos@straphaelarchangel.org
<b>Mr. Robert Schlueter</b>	Maintenance
<b>Mrs. Julie Hayes</b>	School Principal
	hayes@straphaelarchangel.org
<b>Mrs. Linda Mechler</b>	School Secretary
	secretary@straphaelarchangel.org
<b>Mrs. Qi Franz</b>	Cafeteria Manager
	franz@straphaelarchangel.org

**OFFICE HOURS**

**Parish Office** Monday-Thursday 7:30am-4:00pm  
Friday 7:30am-12:00pm

**School Office** Summer Hours

**CONNECT WITH US!**

<b>Parish Office</b>	314.352.8100
Fax	314.353.6603
<b>School</b>	314.352.9474
Fax	314.351.7477
<b>Website</b>	straphaelarchangel.org
<b>Facebook and Twitter</b>	@SRAtoday
<b>Instagram</b>	straphaelarchangel

**LAY LEADERSHIP OF OUR PARISH**

Parish Council	Dan Meshoto	314.452.1017
School Board	Matt Fuhr	314.750.8691
Finance Council	Joseph Cyr	314.335.7322
HSA President	Emily Young	314.323.9336

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**WEEKENDS**

Saturday at 7:00am and 4:30pm

Sunday at 8:00am and 10:00am

**WEEKDAYS**

Monday through Friday at 7:00am

Monday through Thursday at 8:00am (school only)

**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**

The church is open for private prayer:

Monday-Friday 8:00am - 2:30pm,

Saturday 8:00am - 4:30pm,

Sunday 9:00am - 10:00am.

**PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTIONS**

Tuesday mornings at 6:50am

**ROSARY**

Public praying of the Rosary is suspended.

**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.

**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.



Christmas 2020

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.

If you are like me, you have a lot of uncertainty about the coming weeks and months. Because of the pandemic, there are many challenges ahead. But I am sure of one thing, Christ will be with us in the midst of our difficulties. Now is the time for Catholics to step forward, giving generously to help those in need.

Each year, the people of the archdiocese are asked to make a special gift on Christmas Day to support our seminarians at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary. These men are responding to Christ's call to follow Him as they discern a vocation to the holy priesthood and have dedicated themselves to living, growing, and serving in His love as they prepare for a life of parish ministry. God-willing, these men will bring the faith given to us by Christ 2,000 years ago to future generations.

This Christmas, I ask you to pray for vocations and for all our priests and seminarians. I also ask you to be generous in your donation to the Christmas collection at your parish, which helps ensure that our seminarians receive the education and formation they need to grow closer to Christ each day. Your support is a source of inspiration for the seminarians and helps to build up the Church in St. Louis. Together, we can encourage our future priests to walk the path of holiness as they seek to configure their hearts to the Heart of Jesus Christ.

I am blessed to be celebrating my first Christmas with the people of the Archdiocese of St. Louis! I am grateful for the warm welcome I have already received. What a gift it is to be part of this community! 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,

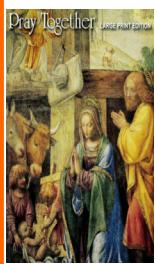
*+ Mitchell T. Rozanski*

Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski  
Archbishop of St. Louis

### SPIRITUAL COMMUNION OF ST. ALPHONSUS

My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart, as though You have already come. I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

## LARGE-PRINT MISSALETTES



The new, large-print edition of the *Pray Together* missalettes for November through March are now available. If you would like one, please stop by the parish office to pick one up. The office hours are Monday - Thursday from 7:30am until 4:00pm and Friday from 7:30am until noon.

## 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. Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the suffering and poor to celebrate Christmas.

## HOLIDAYS AND HOLY DAYS MASS SCHEDULE

### ***Christmas Eve (December 24)***

7:00am (In church, no signup required)  
4:30pm (In church and gym, signup required)

### ***Christmas Eve (December 24) (Continued)***

6:30pm (In church, no signup required)  
10:00pm (In church, no signup required)

### ***Christmas Day (December 25)***

8:00am (In church, no signup required)  
10:00am (In church, no signup required)

### ***Vigil of the Feast of Mary, Mother of God (December 31)***

4:30pm

### ***Feast of Mary, Mother of God (January 1)***

8:00am  
10:00am

# Time Running Out!

## ADVENT GIVING TREE



Our Advent Giving Tree this year will once again sponsor Peter & Paul Community Services. In addition to their meal program, P&P offers various supportive services to those who are homeless, many who are living with mental illness, addiction, or HIV/AIDS. Due to current events, the "gifts" to the Giving Tree will only be monetary. All money collected will be used by P&P to provide those in transitional housing with gift cards to purchase needed household and personal items.

Kindly place your donation in an envelope marked "Peter and Paul Community Services." You can put it in the collection basket, drop it off at the parish office, or mail it to the parish office. Checks should be payable to "St. Raphael" and are due NO LATER than December 16.

We are grateful for your continued generosity, allowing us to provide needed support to this organization that is working hard to improve and change lives for the better. Thank you to all who are able to participate in this Advent Season of giving to those in need.

## PRAYER NETWORK

Our prayer network continues its quiet work of praying for our parishioners who are ill, recovering from illness, and for special intentions as well. We also invite you to remember these petitions daily in your prayers. If you are interested in having an intention added to the prayer chain or to receive the list of intentions, please contact the parish office.



## THANK YOU!

SCRIP is such a great and easy way to support the SRA HSA. Last month we made more than \$150! If you see any stores/dollar amounts on the website that you would like but are not on the order form, please feel free to write them in.



# Mass INTENTIONS

## Sunday, December 13

8:00am Rose Lafata  
10:00 Don Deachan

## Monday, December 14

7:00am Logan Warnecke  
8:00am Kathy Harbaugh Fitzgerald

## Tuesday, December 15

7:00am Elsa Straub  
8:00am Bentz Family

## Wednesday, December 16

7:00am Rebecca Cross, SI  
8:00am Matt Held

## Thursday, December 17

7:00am Betty Ann Bahr  
8:00am Chef Jacques Tabarly, SI

## Friday, December 18

7:00am Mary Lou and Bill Schicker

## Saturday, December 19

7:00am Mary Mahoney  
4:30pm Clare Chambers

## Sunday, December 20

8:00am People of the Parish  
10:00am Laurette Muehleisen Kuhl

*“Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” – 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. “Rejoice always” means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. “Pray constantly” means make prayer a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. “Give thanks in all circumstances” means, even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and demonstrates our dependence on God.

# DAILY READINGS

Monday:	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday:	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23; Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday:	Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday:	Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
Friday:	Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Saturday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Sunday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

## Your Contributions to God and Parish

### December 6, 2020

(Envelopes Used)	This Week	FY to Date
<b>Regular Env. (99)</b>	\$ 7,605.00	\$ 100,433.00
<b>Loose Money</b>	\$ 3,098.00	\$ 20,964.00
<b>School Support</b>	\$ 375.00	\$ 3,654.00
<b>Building Fund</b>	\$ 120.00	\$ 4,605.00
<b>Holy Days</b>	\$ 628.00	\$ 2,666.00
<b>Online Giving (58)</b>	\$ 3,302.00	\$ 58,725.00
<b>Thanksgiving</b>	(\$ 510.00)	
<b>Seminary</b>	(\$ 20.00)	
<b>Retired Religious</b>	(\$ 21.00)	
<b>Good Friday-Holy Land</b>	(\$ 2.00)	
<b>Candle Money</b>	\$ 207.00	
<b>Grand Total</b>	\$ 15,888.00	
<b>Total for Parish</b>	\$ 15,335.00	\$ 191,621.00
<b>Amount Needed</b>	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 207,000.00
<b>Difference</b>	\$ 6,335.00	(\$ 11,720.00)
<b>FYE 2020</b>		(\$ 37,795.00)

## SRA ST. VINCENT de PAUL CONFERENCE UPDATE

These unprecedented times have impacted many with health concerns, job loss, financial strain, loneliness, and worry. As a result, the requests for help from our neighbors have grown as well. Thanks to your ongoing donations, we have been able to provide needed financial support, allowing families to stay in their homes, keep their utilities running, and put food on their tables. In addition, we are connecting our neighbors with other agencies who have stepped up with COVID relief funding and resource support.

Since the start of the pandemic in March, we have pledged:

\$16,635 in Rent Payments      \$11,508 for Utilities      \$3,050 in Food Vouchers

These costs far exceed what we have historically budgeted and spent; and, although our funds have depleted significantly, we fully trust in God that we will be able to continue to respond to those in need.

What can you do to help? Please keep our neighbors in your prayers.

- Check on your neighbors too - a phone call can go a long way.
- Consider making a donation to our local food pantries which are in dire need. Our school children continue to collect food. Each month deliveries are made to the Affton Food Pantry.
- Continue to provide financial support to SVdP if you are able.

We are grateful for your ongoing support and generosity that allows us to serve as SVdP Vincentians. Thank you.

"The pandemic provides a great opportunity for us to remember our three pillars: Spirituality, Friendship, and Service. Let us remember our fellow Vincentians and our neighbors in our prayers. Let us be a friend to the lonely, the sick, and the suffering. Let us serve our neighbors to the best of our ability." St. Louis SVdP Council Leadership

### WINTER OUTREACH A MINISTRY OF MERCY

Encouraged by our Catholic Social Teachings: "Option for the Poor and Vulnerable," many parish communities are committed to St. Louis Winter Outreach as a 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, our homeless "brethren" will spend cold days and nights on the streets of St. Louis. In an effort to give them some comfort, we ask your help in providing meals to an overnight shelter during the coldest months. Drivers are also needed to deliver the meals at 1:00pm to Americorps Shelter (1315 Ann Street) on the following days.

#### SATURDAY

JANUARY 16, 2021   FEBRUARY 13, 2021

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

9 x 13 Casserole (Meat, Vegetable or Breakfast)      Dessert (12 to 24 Servings)



All dishes must be brought baked, frozen, wrapped and marked, and may be store-bought. Food is to be dropped off at Our Lady of Sorrows Parking Lot at 1:00pm. If needed, arrangements can be made for pick up from your home ahead of time. For more information, to share a dish and/or be a driver, please contact Mary Ellen Mueller at 314.374.1712 or email maryem@brick.net.



**amazon smile**

Did you know that Amazon will donate .5% of every purchase to our school at no extra cost to you? Just shop at [smile.Amazon.com](https://smile.Amazon.com) and choose St. Raphael the Archangel as your preferred charitable organization.

Prefer to shop in the app? Now your purchases can count too by following these steps!

1. If you are not already an AmazonSmile member, sign up on your web browser.
2. Make sure you have the latest version of the Amazon shopping app. You can find it in the App Store for iOS or Google Play for Android.
3. Open the app and find “Settings” in the main menu. Tap on “AmazonSmile” and follow the on-screen instructions to turn on AmazonSmile on your phone.

Stay safe shopping for Christmas this year AND give back to our school! It's that simple.

## ST RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL BLACK & GOLD AUCTION FEBRUARY 13, 2021

**Don't miss the 2021 SRA Black and Gold Auction! It may look a little different from last year's auction, but it will certainly be a good time in your own home!**

When: Saturday, February 13, 2021

Where: Online!

What: Silent Auction with extra goodies such as an Auction Swag Bag for \$75 per household and dinner from Bartolino's Osteria for \$25 per person

Get your Auction Swag Bag tickets today - limited quantities available!

[Https://blackandgold21.givesmart.com/](https://blackandgold21.givesmart.com/)



Saint Raphael the Archangel

**Black & Gold  
Dinner Auction**

**All donations must  
be received by  
January 25, 2021.**

For more information call  
314-352-8100

Ticket Information  
Coming Soon!



## Donation Form

Donor \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Description (Quantity, Size, Color, Restrictions, Expiration Date, Etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Value of Donation \_\_\_\_\_ Donor Signature \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Please arrange for SRA to pick up item(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Item(s) to be delivered to SRA

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO SAINT RAPHAEL SCHOOL**

Saint Raphael the Archangel is a 501(c)(3) non-profit.  
Federal Tax ID # 43-0653561 NCEA 246242

**QUESTIONS?**

Contact the rectory office at 314-352-8100

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

**FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY**

\_\_\_\_\_ TANGIBLE ITEMS TO DISPLAY

\_\_\_\_\_ GIFT CERTIFICATE(S) PROVIDED BY DONOR

\_\_\_\_\_ SRA TO CREATE CERTIFICATE(S) FOR DONATED ITEM(S)

CATALOG ITEM # \_\_\_\_\_ CATALOG SECTION \_\_\_\_\_

TO BE PACKAGED WITH \_\_\_\_\_

STORAGE LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_ SOLICITED BY \_\_\_\_\_

NOTES/SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

School of St. Raphael the Archangel • 6000 Jamieson Avenue • St. Louis, MO 63109

[auction@sraphaelarchangel.org](mailto:auction@sraphaelarchangel.org)

Thank you for your support!



## WELCOME TO THE ST. RAPHAEL 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: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the appropriate item(s):

New Parishioner

New Phone/E-mail/Address

Please Contact Me

Please Do Not Publish #