

## 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

## 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  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2019



Over all [other virtues] put on love,  
that is, the bond of perfection.

—Colossians 3:14

## 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."*

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

**CLERGY & STAFF**

<b>Fr. John Mayo</b>	Pastor <a href="mailto:frjohn@straphaelarchangel.org">frjohn@straphaelarchangel.org</a>
<b>Msgr. Dennis Stehly, VG</b>	Priest-In-Residence <a href="mailto:dennisstehly@archstl.org">dennisstehly@archstl.org</a>
<b>Deacon Gerald J. Geiser</b>	Retired Deacon
<b>Dr. Nancy Deacon</b>	Music Director <a href="mailto:musicdirector@straphaelarchangel.org">musicdirector@straphaelarchangel.org</a>
<b>Mrs. Diane Halbert</b>	Parish Office Manager <a href="mailto:halbert@straphaelarchangel.org">halbert@straphaelarchangel.org</a>
<b>Mrs. Mickey Janos</b>	Admin. Assistant <a href="mailto:janos@straphaelarchangel.org">janos@straphaelarchangel.org</a>
<b>Mr. Robert Schlueter</b>	Maintenance
<b>Mrs. Julie Hayes</b>	School Principal <a href="mailto:hayes@straphaelarchangel.org">hayes@straphaelarchangel.org</a>
<b>Mrs. Linda Mechler</b>	School Secretary <a href="mailto:secretary@straphaelarchangel.org">secretary@straphaelarchangel.org</a>
<b>Mrs. Qi Franz</b>	Cafeteria Manager <a href="mailto:franz@straphaelarchangel.org">franz@straphaelarchangel.org</a>

**OFFICE HOURS**

<b>Parish Office</b>	Monday-Thursday	7:30am-4:00pm
	Friday	7:30am-12:00pm
<b>School Office</b>	Monday-Friday	7:30am-3:30pm

**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>	<a href="http://straphaelarchangel.org">straphaelarchangel.org</a>
<b>Facebook and Twitter</b>	@SRAtoday
<b>Instagram</b>	<a href="http://straphaelarchangel">straphaelarchangel</a>

**LAY LEADERSHIP OF OUR PARISH**

Parish Council	Dan Meshoto	314.452.1017
School Board	Todd Berta	314.352.8420
Finance Council	Joseph Cyr	314.335.7322
HSA President	Jennifer Delf	314.323.6073

**THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH  
DEC. 30, 2019 - JAN. 5, 2020**

**Monday, December 30**

7:00am - Church	Mass
3:30pm - Gym	3rd Gr. Girls Bball.
5:00pm- Gym	1st & 3rd Gr. Boys Ball.
6:30pm - Parish Office	Cheer Committee
6:30pm - Gym	4th Gr. Boys Bball.
7:00pm - Cafeteria	Scouts
7:30pm - Gym	8th Gr. Boys Bball.

**Tuesday, December 31 - New Year's Eve**

7:00am - Church	Mass
4:30pm - Church	Mass

**Wednesday, January 1 - Solemnity of Mary**

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

**Thursday, January 2**

7:00am - Church	Mass
3:00pm - Cafeteria	5th Gr. Cub Scouts
3:30pm- Gym	7th Gr. Boys Bball.
5:00pm - Gym	5th Gr. Boys Bball.
6:30pm - Gym	4th Gr. Girls Bball.
7:30pm- Gym	3rd Gr. Girls Bball.

**Friday, January 3**

7:00am - Church	Mass
3:30pm - Gym	7th Gr. Girls Bball.
5:30pm - Tobias, Raphael Rms.	Alpha Conference

**Saturday, January 4**

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

**Sunday, January 5**

8:00am - Church	Mass
10:00am - Church	Mass
1:00pm - Cafeteria	Chess Team



## FR. JOHN'S DIGITAL QUILL FOR SPIRITUAL MUSINGS AND PARISH NEWS

### *Forgiveness in Families*

The front cover of our bulletin this week carries a fairly typical picture of the Holy Family. It shows Mary, Joseph, and Jesus living together in seemingly effortless, loving union with one another. While it makes for a great picture, it is at the same time hard for us to relate to the image as truly realistic for us.

Let us for a minute set aside the initial difficulty we have in relating to the Holy Family. As we gaze on this image, knowing that the Holy Family is offered to us as an image for our families, what are we to take from this example?

The answer is simple: we are to model the love they have for one another.

Such a simple answer is challenging, for our relations with one another are not always the effortless exchanges of love that seem to be present in the life of the Holy Family. We disagree with one another. We argue. Sometimes we even hurt one another. These and other such occurrences create wounds inside of us and wounds inside our families.

Our wounded families are still called by God and the Church to model the Holy Family's love. How does this work? Through forgiveness.

Forgiveness does not necessarily mean that I forget the event that caused the wound. It does not mean that everything is okay. It does not mean that I forgive once and all is good.

Forgiveness is calling upon the love and mercy of God. In light of such loving mercy, I choose to forgive, to look on the other with mercy. At the same time, I honor the hurt and other associated feelings caused by the hurtful event. While honoring them, I choose not to dwell in them but instead to dwell in loving mercy.

Does forgiveness mean that everything goes back to the way it was before the hurtful event? Here is where prudence and discernment are needed. For some things, yes, the relationship may go back to just the way it was before. Other times, some adjustments may need to be made. There are still times that the hurt is significant enough that redefining the bounda-

ries of the relationship temporarily or more long-term may be the right decision. This is not a lack of forgiveness. It is my choice of how much I trust the other person. If people have proved to be untrustworthy, such a change in definition is prudent and necessary. Remember, Jesus said we have to love one another, not that we have to be friends with everyone.

Once I make the decision to forgive, how do I live it? By praying for these people. Place them in the arms of God and ask God to bless them as much as possible. Do not specify how God should bless them; just ask Him to do it. Also, receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation and praying for the grace of being able to forgive are great tools to help us extend forgiveness on this Feast of the Holy Family.

### *In Gratitude*

We have come a long way this year.

In January, we came together as a parish community and laid out a vision to build a more sustainable parish and school, administratively and financially. We set ambitious goals together and have accomplished many of them. Notably, we are the second fastest growing school in our area, we have the strong backing of school parents and parishioners to sustain us, and we have started efforts to more effectively fund-raise.

This year also saw many spiritual highlights. We enthroned the parish to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and had a Lenten Project focused on the spiritual health and wider wellbeing of our community. Most recently, we introduced new hymnals to our worship as well.

As this year draws to a close, may we be thankful for these and many other graces that have come to our community in 2019 and pray for additional blessings in 2020.

### *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!

### NEW YEAR'S PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The office will close on New Year's Eve, Tuesday, December 31, at noon and will be closed on New Year's Day, January 1. Regular hours will resume on Thursday, January 2.



**Sunday, December 29**  
8:00am People of the Parish  
10:00am Caleb Reidhead

**Monday, December 30**  
7:00am Peggy Bartoni

**Tuesday, December 31 - New Year's Eve**

7:00am Don Deachan  
4:30pm Pauline Zagroba

**Wednesday, January 1 - Solemnity of Mary**  
8:00am Vincenza Maniaci  
10:00am Tom Majda

**Thursday, January 2**  
7:00am Traci Arnowitz

**Friday, January 3**  
7:00am Rosalie Buckley

**Saturday, January 4**  
7:00am Traci Arnowitz  
4:30pm Larry Brotherton

**Sunday, January 5**  
8:00am People of the Parish  
10:00am Marcia Matreci

### 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.

*On behalf of Msgr. Stehly, Deacon Geiser, and our entire staff here at St. Raphael the Archangel, we wish you and your families many blessings in the New Year of 2020!*

Please remember to begin this year honoring Mary and asking for the Lord's blessings on the year at Mass on January 1! This is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses are at 4:30pm Tuesday, December 31 and on January 1 at 8:00 and 10:00am.

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

### **CATHOLIC MEN AND WOMEN FOR CHRIST CONFERENCES**

For Men: February 1, 2020

For Women: March 7, 2020

Join us for the Catholic Men and Women for Christ Conferences, at the Touhill Performing Arts Center! Enjoy speakers, Reconciliation, Adoration, merchant and ministry vendors, Vigil Mass, healing prayer, relics, and more!

If you have questions or to register:  
[catholicmenforchrist.org/](http://catholicmenforchrist.org/)  
[catholicwomenforchrist.org.](http://catholicwomenforchrist.org/)

### **AUCTION NEWS**

Our 2020 SRA Black and Gold Dinner Auction is quickly approaching on February 8, 2020. The SRA Auction Donation Blitz is over, but it's not too late to DONATE! Do you have a donation item? Do you have a donation idea? Please submit donations to the parish office or ideas to Liz Berry at [auction@straphaelarchangel.org](mailto:auction@straphaelarchangel.org) BEFORE January 20, 2020. Congratulations to Beth Eppy who won the hockey tickets for the Auction Donation Blitz!

### **WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS**

For those celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries in 2020, please mark your calendars for a Mass and reception on Saturday, February 22, 2020. If you were newly married in 2019 or if you will be married this coming year (2020) for 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 or 60-plus years, please call the parish office at 314.352.8100 or e-mail to [parish@straphaelarchangel.org](mailto:parish@straphaelarchangel.org) with your wedding date. We will place you on the invitation list.

# ALTAR SERVERS

## SERVERS FOR DEC. 30, 2019 - JAN. 5, 2020

### Monday, December 30

7:00am Matthew Franz Steven Irons

### Tuesday, December 31 - New Year's Eve

7:00am Claire Fuhr Volunteer  
4:30pm Christian Concepcion Claire Fuhr  
Volunteer

### Wednesday, January 1 - Solemnity of Mary

8:00am Volunteer Volunteer  
10:00am Mateo Switzer Aidan Switzer  
Volunteer

### Thursday, January 2

7:00am Rory Barnawell Maggie Anstey

### Friday, January 3

7:00am Anna-Grace Guenther Cate Guenther

### Saturday, January 4

7:00am Charlie Dirnbeck Cillian Sheehan  
4:30pm Steven Irons Isabella Pfeiffer  
Christian Concepcion

### Sunday, January 5

8:00am Alex Sullivan Jack Stein  
Lydia Eddingfield  
10:00am Ryan Pinkerton Dalia Ramirez  
Nahima Ramirez

### STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

*"Wives, be subordinate to your husbands...  
Husbands, love your wives...Children, obey your  
parents in everything...Fathers, do not provoke  
your children..." (Colossians 3:18-21)*

Pope Francis said that, through their lives of prayer and love, families become "schools of true human growth." Being credible witnesses of Christian love, especially that of family members, exerts the most positive influence on our children. We are all children of God. Let us pray and love each other as God, Our Father, loves us.

### MINISTERS/LECTORS FOR DEC. 31, 2019

7:00AM	4:30PM
BARB CRAMER	GEORGE KERRY
JAN. 1, 2020	

8:00AM	10:00AM
KEVIN LIDDY	FROSTY HODES

### MINISTERS/LECTORS FOR THE WEEKEND OF

#### JAN. 4-5, 2020

#### LECTORS

4:30pm	8:00am	10:00am
Bob Ahrens	Kevin Liddy	Dennis Matreci

### EUCARISTIC MINISTERS

Kathy Steck	Mary Steck	Tom Yehlen
Pam Hager	Mary Niemeyer	Dennis Matreci
Kathe Berger	Mary Reck	Carolyn Skidmore
Gina Horas	Barbara Cramer	Greg Divis
Brian McCarthy	Kevin Liddy	Karen Divis
		Ann Grabian

### Your Contributions to God and Parish

#### December 15, 2019

(Envelopes Used)

	This Week	FY to Date
<b>Regular Env. (67)</b>	\$ 4,222.00	\$ 104,876.00
<b>Loose Money</b>	\$ 2,505.00	\$ 31,221.00
<b>School Support</b>	\$ 15.00	\$ 2,388.00
<b>Building Fund</b>	\$ 525.00	\$ 4,679.00
<b>Holy Days</b>	\$ 263.00	\$ 2,996.00
<b>Online Giving (46)</b>	\$ 2,293.00	\$ 54,315.00

**Altar Flowers** \$ 10.00

**Seminar** (\$ 60.00)

**Tithing** (\$ 50.00)

**Grand Total** \$ 9,943.00

**Total for Parish** \$ 9,833.00 \$ 202,820.00

**Amount Needed** \$ 9,000.00 \$ 216,000.00

**Difference** \$ 833.00 (\$ 13,180.00)

**FYE 2019** (\$ 39,072.00)

## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SEASON SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Weekend of December 28-29

Regular Mass Schedule

Feast of Mary, Mother of God

Holy Day of Obligation

Tuesday, December 31, 2019, 4:30pm

Wednesday, January 1, 2020, 8:00am and 10:00am



## HOLY FAMILY PRAYER

Jesus, son of God and Son of Mary, bless our family. Graciously inspire in us the unity, peace, and mutual love that you found in your own family in the little town of Nazareth.

Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother, nourish our family with your faith and your love. Keep us close to your Son, Jesus, in all our sorrows and joys.

Joseph, foster-father to Jesus, guardian and spouse of Mary, keep our family safe from harm. Help us in all times of discouragement or anxiety.

## WINTER OUTREACH A MINISTRY OF MERCY



Encouraged by our Catholic social teachings, *Option for the Poor and Vulnerable*, our parish community is 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 for me.*” (MT 25:31-46)

As winter approaches, many homeless “brethren” will spend their days and nights on the streets of St. Louis. In an effort to give them some comfort, we are asking you to help provide meals to an overnight shelter during the coldest months. Drivers are also needed to deliver the meals to Americorps Shelter (1315 Ann St.) on our assigned Saturdays:

January 18, 2020

February 22, 2020

Please consider joining our Ministry of Mercy by providing one or more of the following: 9 x 13 casserole (meat, vegetable or breakfast). Also desserts for 12 to 24 servings. Food is to be dropped off at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish Hall by 1:00pm. If needed, arrangements can be made for pick up. 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 e-mail at [maryem@brick.net](mailto:maryem@brick.net). GOD'S WORK THROUGH OUR HANDS



Friday, January 10  
Saturday, January 18  
Sunday, January 26

Friday, January 31  
Saturday, February 8

Alpha Resumes  
Snowflake Ball  
Catholic Schools Week Begins  
with Open House  
Grandparent's Day  
Black and Gold Dinner Auction

## **ALPHA IS CONTINUING AT SRA! AND YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN!**

Alpha is a chance to explore life and the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. If you're less than satisfied with the way your life is going... If you long for a more meaningful relationship with God... If you have more questions than answers... then Alpha is for you! Join us for a great meal and conversation with others as we delve into the meaning of life and faith. Our first session was fun and informative and you're not too late to come and see for yourself...what have you got to lose?



Our next session is Friday, January 10, 6:30 - 9:00pm in the lower level of the parish office. For adults of all ages, backgrounds, and religious orientation. Feel free to invite a friend to come with you! Free childcare is available. Dinner is only for adult participants; children should eat before coming or bring their own meal; juice and snack will be offered. To register, please call, text or email Mary Reck at 314.326.6996 or [mjreck@gmail.com](mailto:mjreck@gmail.com).

# **School News**

### *Ms. Susan Polson: Third Grade*

We really enjoyed sharing all our tree projects with one another. Ms. Polson said, "They turned out TREEmendous!" We have been busy writing, editing, and typing on the Chromebooks. Our final copies are very nice and so are our illustrations. We even attempted a difficult form of poetry called limericks and were somewhat successful. Surprisingly we have mastered multiplication facts  $x0, x1, x2, x4, x5, x10, x11$ . Some of us use a chart and some of us just know those "easy" facts. We are grateful to be in third grade.

'Tis the season!

### *Mr. John Bruno: Physical Education*

Over the past few weeks, the students in physical education class have been working on Frisbee skills. They practiced a variety of lead up activities that broke down the different skills of this sport. The students worked with partners and in team games. The students have taken a liking to the Frisbee activities including: Frisbee golf, ultimate Frisbee, and no-outs Frisbee baseball. The primary students also played a game of pick up the trash, using Frisbees as trash. They worked in small groups and were timed during the game. They had a lot of fun!

The students are now playing field hockey. We have just completed working in stations and breaking down certain skills of the game. During the upcoming weeks, classes will be working on football skills. As always, I will continue to stress to all of my students that the main objectives of physical education are to get everyone active, to have fun, and to feel like a part of the class.

### *Mrs. Jennifer Runiewicz: Religion Seventh and Eighth Grade*

During this last month, 8th grade religion has focused on the Marks of the Church: One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic. In our next unit, we will begin to explore the history of the Church, starting with the builders of the early Church. We will also learn about how Mary is the perfect example of what holiness is.

Seventh grade religion has been learning Jesus Christ the Truth, where we learned from teachings and examples of Christ how to live according to the commandments, the Beatitudes, and his new law of love, the Gospel. Our next unit is entitled Jesus Christ the Life, where we will study about the spiritual journey, a personal faith journey that is developed through a growing friendship with Jesus that will be completed in the fullness of eternal life.

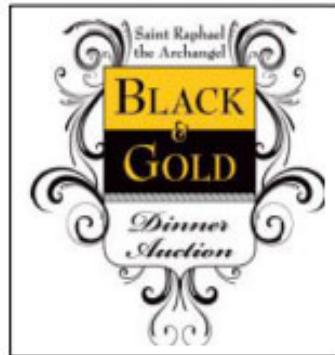
ST RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

# BLACK & GOLD AUCTION

FEBRUARY 8, 2020

New this year...SHOUT OUTS!

For just \$10, a 2in by 2in space can be purchased in our auction program book. This is a great idea to give your favorite SRA student or teacher some extra love or publicize your small business. Easy for grandparents to buy too!



To purchase, please fill out the attached form and return with payment by January 20 to the Parish Office.

THANK YOU!

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Shout Out Recipient: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Message: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please remit form, with payment to

SRA Parish Office, Attn: Auction Ads

6047 Bishops Place

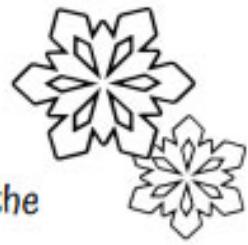
St. Louis, MO 63109

-or email form to [auction@straphaelarchangel.org](mailto:auction@straphaelarchangel.org)

Ads will not be published without payment by January 20, 2020



All girls of St. Raphael the Archangel School or Parish  
in kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade please join us  
with your father or special someone for a glamorous evening at the

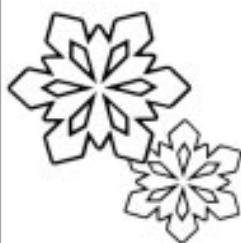


## Father Daughter Snowflake Ball

**Date:** Saturday, January 18, 2020

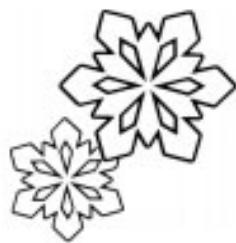
**Time:** 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

**Place:** St. Raphael the Archangel School Gymnasium



### Appetizers and Desserts

\$35.00 per family



### Photo Booth and Dancing

### Glamorous Evening Attire

Sponsored by the Girl Scouts of St. Raphael the Archangel School

Please return reservation form and money  
in an envelope to the school office marked  
**Snowflake Ball** by Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup>.

Please make your check payable to **SRA**.

For further information, please contact  
Donna Videmschek at 314.306.2668 or  
[dvidemschek@stjosephacademy.org](mailto:dvidemschek@stjosephacademy.org).

## Father Daughter Snowflake Ball



### Reservation Form

**Family name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number attending:** \_\_\_\_\_

# HE IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON

YOUR PARISH FAMILY WELCOMES YOU.  
THANK YOU FOR CELEBRATING WITH US THIS HOLY SEASON.



ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS



ARCHSTL.ORG



## ADVENT GIVING TREE

Not surprisingly, our parish responded again with very generous hearts by providing an abundance of gifts for Peter & Paul Community Services. The items donated will positively impact the lives of the clients they assist through its supportive programs. May God continue to bless each of them and all of you for your loving compassion and generosity. *The SRA Saint Vincent de Paul Society*



## 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the appropriate item(s):

New Parishioner       Please Contact Me  
 New Phone/Email/Address       Please Do Not Publish #