

SAINT RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time
February 14, 2021

Reading I

Lev. 13:1-2, 44-46

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "If someone has on his skin a scab or pustule or blotch which appears to be the sore of leprosy, he shall be brought to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests among his descendants. If the man is leprous and unclean, the priest shall declare him unclean by reason of the sore on his head. "The one who bears the sore of leprosy shall keep his garments rent and his head bare, and shall muffle his beard; he shall cry out, 'Unclean, unclean!' As long as the sore is on him he shall declare himself unclean, since he is in fact unclean. He shall dwell apart, making his abode outside the camp."

Responsorial Psalm

Ps. 32:1-2, 5, 11

R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Blessed is he whose fault is taken away, whose sin is covered. Blessed the man to whom the LORD imputes not guilt, in whose spirit there is no guile.

R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, my guilt I covered not. I said, "I confess my faults to the LORD," and you took away the guilt of my sin.

R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, you just; exult, all you upright of heart.

R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Reading II

1 Cor. 10:31-1:1

Brothers and sisters, Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God. Avoid giving offense, whether to the Jews or Greeks or the church of God, just as I try to please everyone in every way, not seeking my own benefit but that of the many, that they may be saved. Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

Gospel

Mk 1:40-45

A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean." The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean. Then, warning him sternly, he dismissed him at once. He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them."

The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly. He remained outside in deserted places, and people kept coming to him from everywhere.

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

Fr. John Mayo Pastor
frjohn@straphaelarchangel.org

Msgr. Dennis Stehly, VG Priest-In-Residence
dennisstehly@archstl.org

Deacon Gerald J. Geiser Retired Deacon

**Mr. and Mrs. Ray and
Mary Anne Braun** Music Ministers

Mrs. Diane Halbert Parish Office Manager
halbert@straphaelarchangel.org

Mrs. Mickey Janos Admin. Assistant
janos@straphaelarchangel.org

Mr. Robert Schlueter Maintenance

Mrs. Julie Hayes School Principal
hayes@straphaelarchangel.org

Mrs. Linda Mechler School Secretary
secretary@straphaelarchangel.org

Mrs. Qi Franz Cafeteria Manager
franz@straphaelarchangel.org

OFFICE HOURS

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

School Office Monday-Friday 7:00am-3:00pm

CONNECT WITH US!

Parish Office 314.352.8100
Fax 314.353.6603

School 314.352.9474
Fax 314.351.7477

Website straphaelarchangel.org
Facebook and Twitter @SRAtoday
Instagram 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)

CONFESSIONS

15 minutes before 7:00am Mass on Tuesday,
Thursday, and Saturday
Saturday 3:45pm to 4:20pm
Confessions also available by appointment.

EUCCHARISTIC 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.

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

Lent Begins this Wednesday

Wednesday, February 17, it is the first day of Lent this year.

I have to say, I am a bit more excited to enter this Lent than the ones in previous years. Last year, our Lenten journey was somewhat interrupted by the pandemic and the ensuing lockdowns. Lent, for many people, including me, slipped down a few notches in our priorities that included the practicalities of life in a locked-down world. Hopefully this year, circumstances will allow us to keep Lent in its proper place in our lives.

As is customary, it is a good spiritual practice to give up something for Lent. This practice allows us to unite ourselves to the sufferings of Our Lord. It should also free us to add something better to our lives: be it a new virtue, spiritual practice, or viewpoint. In our Lenten mailing there is a Lenten Commitment Sheet with many ideas of practices for Lent. Please prayerfully consider the information on this sheet and choose one or two of the suggested practices.

On Ash Wednesday, Masses will be at 7:00am, 8:00am, and 7:00pm in church as well as at 8:00am in the school for our students only. As was announced last week, the major change this year is that the ashes will be distributed by sprinkling them. When you come forward to receive the ashes as for Communion, please bow your head and the priest will sprinkle the ashes on top. After he has done so, you need say anything, just return to your pew.

Also on Ash Wednesday, we will have Eucharistic Adoration from 3:00-6:30pm. We will end early so that people have the opportunity to attend Mass at 7:00pm.

The Other Days of Lent This Week

On Thursday, we will have our first Bible Study on the *Letter to the Philippians*. Please see the announcement on the next page for more information on this great opportunity.

On Friday, we will have Eucharistic Exposition, praying of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Stations of the Cross, and Benediction beginning at noon. You will be able to attend in-person, in church, or by livestream on our YouTube channel.

Next Sunday (2-21) will be our first Lenten Evening Prayer and talk, beginning at 5:30pm in church. As in Advent, we will pray Evening Prayer together and then I will speak on a topic related to the Sacrament of Confession. This week's topic is all about preparation before confession. Also each week, I will answer questions about the Sacrament or

any faith-based topic. To ask your questions, please email me or to parish@straphaelarchangel.org, or you can drop them off at the parish office or in the collection basket.

Lenten Project

We are just days away from the start of the Lenten Season! This year we will once again go with a more traditional Lenten project. The benefactor for our effort will be the historic Father Dickson African-American Cemetery, located on Sappington along the Katy Trail. We will help the cemetery in several ways. First, we will offer the opportunity throughout Lent for any SRA parishioner who would like to make a sacrificial gift of treasure to Father Dickson's. Our goal is to raise at least \$3,000 to assist with much needed tuckpointing on the cemetery office building, and to help with freshening the landscaping on the property. Any monies raised above this amount will go to further the cemetery's mission. Second, we will again offer the opportunity and gift of service on Saturday, March 20, and Saturday, May 1, from 9:00am to 4:00pm each day. On these days we will help with spring cleaning of the grounds to include debris removal, leaf blowing, basic landscape maintenance, and other similar tasks. Our goal is to help the maintenance man get ready for spring and summer and to help beautify the grounds. We will close the service aspect with an outdoor Mass at 4:00pm on May 1, on the grounds of the cemetery. More details about what is required and how to sign up will be coming soon. In the meantime, please contact Dan Cierpiot at DCierpiot@yahoo.com or 314.757.5257 or Maggie Fuhr at maggiefuhr@gmail.com or you can call/text 314.610.4633.

Parish Picnic News

Although we can hold Masses in a safe and socially-distant way, we are concerned that we will not be able to do the same with the parish picnic in May this year. Please see this announcement from the School Picnic Committee:

Due to the pandemic, the picnic, which is usually held on the weekend of Mother's Day, has been canceled. We hope that the rollout of the vaccines will allow us "possibly" to have some type of picnic/celebration in the late summer or in the early fall. The kids, parents, teachers...everybody needs to come out and play! Let's keep our masks on and our fingers crossed. The final decision will have to be made by the Archdiocese; we will keep you posted.

Sincerely, Fr. John Mayo, Terri Borowiak, Dave Wilkinson, Paul Beckerle

(Continued on page 8.)



Information coming soon!

SAVE THE DATE FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26 DRIVE-THRU-ONLY FISH FRY @ SRA

Conducted with the approval of the Archdiocese and in compliance with local health guidelines

Matthew 25 In The Age of COVID: I was hungry, a stranger, ill or in prison... Sacred Heart Valley Park - Lenten Speaker Series 2021 (Tuesday evenings, 7:30 – 9:00pm, via Zoom)

February 23 – “Supporting the Dignity of Life in the Age of COVID: A Catholic Response” - Representatives from Catholic Charities and their agencies will explore Catholic Teaching and moral principles related to supporting the dignity of life from conception to natural death. What are the realities and hurdles facing the most vulnerable in our midst and those who seek to minister to them? How are we as Catholics called to help?



March 2 – “Housing Insecurity and Homelessness In Our Midst: An Emerging Crisis” - St. Patrick Center CEO Anthony D’Agostino is the keynote speaker in a discussion around the critical and emerging issue of housing insecurity in our area. The economic impact of the pandemic is threatening many families’ finances for the first time and driving those who had already been struggling deeper into despair. What is the need, and what is our faith-driven response?

March 9 – “The Beatitudes for Climate Change” Benjamin de Foy, PhD, Banpu Chair in Sustainability and Professor of Atmospheric Science, Department of Earth & Atmospheric Sciences, Saint Louis University, will challenge us to ask, “What if we turned to the Beatitudes to help us think about climate change”? We all use different frames to understand issues. Sometimes this leads to creative problem solving. From the basic science to current scientific debates, and from personal choices to community action the Beatitudes can help us better understand what is at stake and move forward productively and joyfully!

To register, please go to <https://sacredheartvp.org/> and click on the “Lenten Speaker Series” banner ad.

NEW BIBLE STUDY BEGINNING FEBRUARY 18 PHILIPPIANS: LIFE IN CHRIST

All are welcome to join us for this video-based Bible study, directed by Dr. Tim Gray, on the Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians. It’s a six-week course and will take place from 7:00pm – 8:00pm on Thursday evenings in the lower level of the parish office from February 18 - March 25.

Dr. Gray is a very dynamic, inspirational, easy to understand, Bible scholar who can unpack the mysteries of the Bible in a way that will make you say, “I never knew that!” and will have you yearning for more.

The evening consists of a video segment between 25 - 30 minutes long and then shared discussion on what we learned in the video.

Everyone is welcome, but if possible, please call ahead to let us know you are coming so we can set up the room for proper social distancing. Face masks are required. For more information, please call Sue Brandt, at 314.704.5304 or sbrandtstl@gmail.com.



Sunday, February 14

8:00am Bill and Mary Ann Schicker
10:00 People of the Parish

Monday, February 15

7:00am Oscar Straub, Sr.
8:00am Denise Cutelli

Tuesday, February 16

7:00am Kimling Family
8:00am Gerald Romay

Wednesday, February 17 Ash Wednesday

7:00am Roger Santen
8:00am Evelyn Dubbert
8:00am Charlotte Borgmann
7:00pm Armando Pasetti

Thursday, February 18

7:00am Eugene Hogg
8:00am Robert B. Hill

Friday, February 19

7:00am Tony Bizelli
8:00am Special Intention

Saturday, February 20

7:00am Nancy Savage
4:30pm Karen Koriath

Sunday, February 21

8:00am People of the Parish
10:00am Marcia Matreci

“Brothers and sisters, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.” 1 Corinthians 10:31

Do a quick check of your priorities. Where does God rank in that list? If He’s not first, you have some work to do. Putting God first in everything prevents us from putting other “gods” (like pride, ego, money, and possessions) before God. Prior to making a decision, ask yourself, “Am I doing this for the glory of God or for the glory of me?”

Your Contributions to God and Parish

February 7, 2021

(Envelopes Used)

	This Week	FY to Date
Regular Env. (67)	\$ 4,530.00	\$ 139,471.00
Loose Money	\$ 5,404.00	\$ 35,973.00
School Support	\$ 105.00	\$ 5,099.00
Building Fund	\$ 100.00	\$ 6,475.00
Holy Days	\$ 0.00	\$ 6,399.00
Online Giving (67)	\$ 3,486.00	\$ 85,753.00
St. Louis Review	(\$ 105.00)	
First Offering	\$ 35.00	
Tithing	(\$ 20.00)	
Grand Total	\$ 13,785.00	
Total for Parish	\$ 13,660.00	
Amount Needed	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 288,000.00
Difference	\$ 4,660.00	(\$ 1,110.00)
FYE 2020		(\$ 37,795.00)

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.

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.

WEDDING BANNERS II

There is a promise of marriage between Jennifer Carter and Michael Yanko to take place at St. Raphael the Archangel on Saturday, February 27, 2021.

SRA St. Vincent de Paul 2020 Summary

Although 2020 was a challenging year for many, thanks to the incredible generosity of our parish community, our SVdP Conference was able to respond to our neighbors who humbly reached out for help. We want to share a summary of what we were able to provide to those in need this past year:

- 193 calls for assistance
- \$22,296 in rent payments
- \$14,571 in utility payments
- \$3,850 provided in food vouchers
- \$375 given in thrift store vouchers
- \$4,757 in “other” assistance
- Monthly trips to our local food pantry to support our neighbors
- Countless paper goods, cleaning supplies, prescription forms, and prayers

Thank you for your continued support and for the trust you have given us to be good stewards of your donations. We are grateful for the opportunity to live out our SVdP mission statement:

A network of friends, inspired by Gospel values, growing in holiness and building a more just world through personal relationships with and service to people in need.

DAILY READINGS

Monday:	Gn 4:1-15, 25; Ps 50:1, 8, 16bc-17, 20-21; Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday:	Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Ps 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9c-10; Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday:	Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday:	Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25
Friday:	Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15
Saturday:	Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32
Sunday:	Gn 9:8-15; Ps 25:4-9; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15



Come join us for SRA summer camp

Have fun playing with our experienced staff.
Join us for swim days, field trips, science and many more activities!

June 7th—July 23rd

Visit the SRA web site or

Contact Molly Indelicato

indelicato@straphaelarchangel.org



SRA HSA is planning its next Book Club!

Date: Tuesday, February 23

Time: 7:00pm

Book: *City of Girls* by Elizabeth Gilbert

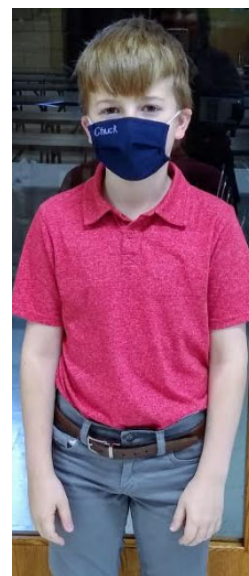
Want to sign up? If so, please email Casey at caseykleekamp@yahoo.com.

FROM ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

In the Gospel today, Jesus, moved with pity, touched the leper and healed him. Let us pray today for the grace to be generous with our gifts to help those who are suffering. By our gifts to the Society, we indeed put our faith into action as we bring healing to the poor, the hungry, and the weeping.



The 8th graders helped load donations from our Catholic Schools Week Service Project that benefit the church of St. Vincent de Paul's Lunch Window. The Lunch Window serves meals to 75-125 needy guests, 6 days a week.



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

School Registration Update

Have you registered for school yet? We are offering a \$100 coupon off of the registration fee for submitting your registration paperwork by the end of the month. To register, please visit <https://sraschool.org/admissions/forms>. If you feel more comfortable filling out paper forms, please contact the school office, and we will be happy to provide those to you.

Also, if you need help in paying tuition for school, please do not forget that the deadline to apply for scholarships from the Today and Tomorrow Foundation is coming up at the end of the month. Please visit ttef-stl.org to apply for a scholarship. Applying does not cost you or the parish anything, so please do so today!

A Catholic Prayer for Marriage

"Loving Lord Jesus, on this day we thank you for the joy of (Name of couple). Throughout the years of their lives, you have kept watch over them, and brought them together in holy Christian marriage. Now, Father, bless them, for they are bonded in love for you and for each other. Saved by your Precious Blood and strengthened by your grace, Holy Father, may they live in kindness and loyalty, in unflinching trust and love so that their whole life may be pleasing to you. Blessed Mother Mary, who, with Joseph, provided a happy home in Nazareth for Jesus, take these dear friends into your maternal care. You who showed concern for a newly married couple at Cana, help and guide (Name of couple).

May their union on earth lead to that eternal union in which all the blessed will be joined together, praising the Saving Blood of Jesus, the Lord. Amen."
From: <https://catholicreadings.org/prayer-for-marriage-prayer-for-my-marriage/>

Please do not forget to support our 8th Graders by visiting their bake sale after all Masses! A great time to get a pre-Lent treat!

I will see you online or in Church! Fr. John #SRAstrong

Weekly Devotion for the Year of St. Joseph

O chaste spouse of most holy Mary, glorious St. Joseph: the trouble and anguish in your heart were great when you were perplexed over sending away your immaculate spouse; yet your joy was immense when the mystery of the Incarnation was revealed to you by the angel.

By this sorrow and this joy, we ask you to comfort our souls, now and in the sorrows of our final hour, with the joy of a good life and a holy death like your own in the company of Jesus and Mary.
(From: <https://scepterpublishers.org/>)

ARCHDIOCESAN LENTEN REGULATIONS

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him." (John 3:16-17)

The Church has always helped us fulfill these words of Jesus by prescribing very definite penance for all Catholics, so that we too might have Eternal life. Accordingly, the Pope and the American Bishops have outlined obligatory fast and abstinence as follows:

Ash Wednesday (February 17, 2021), all Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday (April 2, 2021) are days of abstinence (refraining from meat) for all Catholics from age 14 onwards. On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, fasting, as well as abstinence, is also obligatory for those from the ages of 18-59. Abstinence means refraining from meat. Fasting means one full meal a day, with two smaller meals, and nothing between meals (liquids are permitted). No Catholic will lightly excuse himself or herself from this obligation.