

SAINT RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

First Sunday of Lent
February 21, 2021

Reading I

Gen. 9:8-15

God said to Noah and to his sons with him: "See, I am now establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you and with every living creature that was with you: all the birds, and the various tame and wild animals that were with you and came out of the ark. I will establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all bodily creatures be destroyed by the waters of a flood; there shall not be another flood to devastate the earth." God added: "This is the sign that I am giving for all ages to come, of the covenant between me and you and every living creature with you: I set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth, and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the covenant I have made between me and you and all living beings, so that the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all mortal beings."

Responsorial Psalm

Ps. 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

R. (cf. 10) Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths, Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God, my savior.

R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Remember that your compassion, O LORD, and your love are from of old. In your kindness remember me, because of your goodness, O LORD.

R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Good and upright is the LORD, thus he shows sinners the way. He guides the humble to justice, and he teaches the humble his way.

R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Reading II

1 Pt 3:18-22

Beloved: Christ suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God. Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the Spirit. In it he also went to preach to the spirits in prison, who had once been disobedient while God patiently waited in the days of Noah during the building of the ark, in which a few persons, eight in all, were saved through water. This prefigured Baptism, which saves you now. It is not a removal of dirt from the body but an appeal to God for a clear conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers subject to him.

Gospel

Mk 1:12-15

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him. After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

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.

**GUEST ARTICLE BY DAVID BARANOWSKI, DIRECTOR OF STEWARDSHIP,
ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS**

The word “fruit” is an important word in the life of a Christian.

In the first chapter of *Genesis*, we learn that God created male and female in His own image and likeness, blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and multiply.” God, Our Creator, gave man and woman, whom He created, the ability to create. We are co-creators with God. But, He didn’t stop there; He gave us “dominion” over all living things. He put us in charge of everything He created; we became stewards of God’s gifts.

In the second chapter of *Genesis*, the story of the Garden of Eden, God tells man that he is free to eat from any tree, except the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Eat from that tree and man will die. We know the rest of the story; Adam and Eve ate the “forbidden fruit” and were exiled from the Garden. Forbidden fruit marks when man’s spiritual battle began. Rather than depending on God, man tried to be God. (Remember: forbidden fruit makes many jams.)

Throughout the Bible we read about “first fruits,” giving our first and best to God. These words refer to our sacrificial giving; not just giving from what is left over from our surplus. And, these words don’t apply just to our financial resources and possessions. They also include generosity with our time in prayer and performing charitable works.

Giving from our first fruits also emulates God. In John 3:16 we learn of God’s unconditional love for us. He loves us so much that He gave us the first fruits of His love, His only son, Jesus Christ, as a sacrifice, that we may have eternal life. And, in the book of *Revelation* we learn that, if we follow Jesus, we will become the first fruits of mankind and obtain salvation.

John’s Gospel tells us that, as disciples of Jesus, we are “appointed to go and bear fruit that will remain.” So how do we bear good fruit? We do it through the power of the Holy Spirit. The Christian moral life is sustained by the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives each of us the seven gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord (holiness). As we try to live a Christ-centered life, these virtues become perfected in us, resulting in the fruits of the Holy Spirit: charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, and chastity.

Just as the Holy Spirit guided Jesus for forty days in the desert, ask the Holy Spirit for guidance during Lent to prune away the things that move us away from God and to help us bear good fruit.

SCHEDULE FOR THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT

Sunday, February 21

- Masses at 8:00am and 10:00am
- Lent Evening Prayer at 5:30pm followed by talk on the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Q&A.

Monday, February 22

- Mass at 7:00am in church
- Mass at 8:00am in school for students only

Tuesday, February 23

- Confessions 6:45-6:55am
- Mass at 7:00am in church
- Mass at 8:00am in school for students only
- Confessions 6:15-6:45pm
- Mass at 7:00pm in Church (27.5 minute guarantee!)

Wednesday, February 24

- Mass at 7:00am in church
- Mass at 8:00am in school for students only
- Eucharistic Adoration from 3:00-7:00pm in

the Eucharistic Adoration Chapel

- South City Men’s Recollection at 7:30pm in Church

Thursday, February 25

- Confessions 6:45-6:55am
- Mass at 7:00am in church
- Mass at 8:00am in school for students only
- Bible Study on Philippians at 7:00pm in the Parish Office

Friday, February 26

- Mass at 7:00am in church
- Stations of the Cross at Noon
- Fish Fry in the Afternoon/Evening

Saturday, February 27

- Confessions 6:45-6:55am
- Mass at 7:00am in church
- Confessions 3:45-4:20pm
- Mass at 4:30pm

School News

Congratulations to the SRA Class of 2021! All of our 8th graders were accepted to their first-choice high schools. Great job, 8th graders!

Addison Berta
Vanessa Bess
Lydia Bick
Henry Cyr
William Hotze
Samantha Koziacki
Emillie Mountain
Isabella Pfeiffer
Joseph Raymo
Gavin Smith
John Stein
Alexander Sullivan
Mateo Switzer
Kasen Winkler

St. Joseph's Academy
Notre Dame High School
Bishop DuBourg High School
Christian Brothers College High School
Webster Groves High School
Notre Dame High School
Nerinx Hall High School
Notre Dame High School
Christian Brothers College High School
Christian Brothers College High School
St. Louis University High School
St. Louis University High School
Bishop DuBourg High School
Bishop DuBourg High School



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.

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.



Sunday, February 21

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

Monday, February 22

7:00am Oscar and Elsa Straub
8:00am Tom Hanneke

Tuesday, February 23

7:00am Nino Vitale
8:00am Robert Cowee

Wednesday, February 24

7:00am Ernest J. Winkelmann
8:00am Pat Goeddel

Thursday, February 25

7:00am Hodes Family, SI
8:00am Thomas. Kochler, Sr.

Friday, February 26

7:00am Carol Farris

Saturday, February 27

7:00am Joe Birsinger
4:30pm Ralph Hager

Sunday, February 28

8:00am Joan Hulford
10:00am People of the Parish

“After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God....” Mark 1:14

Do we ever think about how difficult it must have been for Jesus to come into Galilee, knowing that John had just been arrested for teaching the same message that Jesus was proclaiming? It must have taken great love and trust for Jesus to do what the Father had sent Him here to do. In the same way, following a life of stewardship takes great love and trust from us. We must be willing to surrender completely to God, trusting that God will always give us all that we need to fulfill His plan for us.

Your Contributions to God and Parish

February 14, 2021

(Envelopes Used)

	This Week	FY to Date
Regular Env. (54)	\$ 4,023.00	\$ 143,494.00
Loose Money	\$ 1,440.00	\$ 37,413.00
School Support	\$ 50.00	\$ 5,149.00
Building Fund	\$ 225.00	\$ 6,700.00
Holy Days	\$ 0.00	\$ 6,399.00
Online Giving (47)	\$ 2,303.00	\$ 88,506.00
St. Louis Review	(\$ 35.00)	
Glennon Sunday	(\$ 2.00)	
Tithing	(\$ 25.00)	
Retired Religious	(\$ 100.00)	
Grand Total	\$ 8,203.00	
Total for Parish	\$ 8,041.00	\$ 294,931.00
Amount Needed	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 297,000.00
Difference	(\$ 959.00)	(\$ 2,069.00)
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 III

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:	1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19
Tuesday:	Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday:	Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32
Thursday:	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12
Friday:	Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26
Saturday:	Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48
Sunday:	Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 116:10, 15-19; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10

FISH FRY @ SRA!

FRIDAY,

FEBRUARY 26

4:00 - 7:00pm

DRIVE-THRU ONLY

Adults \$10

2 Pc. Cod or 6 Shrimp

2 Sides & Dessert

Kids \$6

1 Pc. Cod or 3 Shrimp

1 Side & Dessert

Cheese Pizza \$5

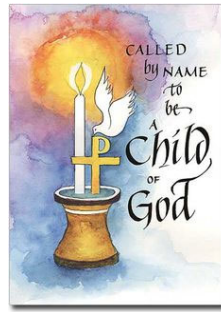
1 Side & Dessert

Cash and cards accepted.

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

FROM ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

In today's Gospel Jesus overcomes the temptations to wealth, power, and esteem. As we begin Lent, may we open our hearts to the grace of Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. This past month, through your gifts, the Society was able to assist 8 families, providing \$150 in food vouchers and over \$2,200 for assistance with utility, rent, and other bills. God bless you!



Congratulations to the newest member of the church, Ruth Kaiser, daughter of Connor and Lizabeth Kaiser. Ruth was baptized on February 14, 2021. May God always bless the Kaiser family.

LIFELINE COALITION CAMPAIGN



**RESPECT LIFE
APOSTOLATE**

The **LifeLine Coalition** is a group of Catholic social service agencies and ProLife caregivers who are committed to assisting women and their families in crisis pregnancies. The **LifeLine Coalition Campaign** is an annual drive to provide practical assistance that includes medical expenses, food, clothing, housing, counseling, adoption services, and spiritual guidance. **All proceeds** from this campaign go directly to women in need. The SRA campaign will extend from March 7 to March 21. Look for your envelope in the March packet of envelopes. Thank you for your generosity! The SRA ProLife Committee

ical assistance that includes medical expenses, food, clothing, housing, counseling, adoption services, and spiritual guidance. **All proceeds** from this campaign go directly to women in need. The SRA campaign will extend from March 7 to March 21. Look for your envelope in the March packet of envelopes. Thank you for your generosity! The SRA ProLife Committee

WE ARE ONE BODY by Fr. Joshua Johnson

My greatest desire is to console the heart of Jesus; and, in John 17, Jesus reveals his heart's desire for us. He prays to the Father that there may be unity — that we may be one as he and the Father are one.

I think this is a unique time in history, and God has created us to bring about unity and renew and restore the body of Christ.

For years I have been speaking as a biracial man about healing the racial divide in this country; it's in my DNA. In recent days, I've been so inspired by the number of Catholics, especially in this country, who have shared with me that, for the first time in their lives, they feel inspired by God to pray, fast, and work with others to really bring about racial reconciliation.

St. Paul says that we must make up for what is lacking in the suffering of the body of Christ (cf. Col 1:24). Every Catholic is responsible for every member of the body. If any member is suffering, whether white, black, or brown, we are all responsible for that member. I must offer up penances and sacrifices in spiritual reparation, to bring about reconciliation with the entire community.

It's a Biblical spiritual practice to repent not only of our sins, but for the sins of others. I encourage people who have never said the N-word or have never participated in an institution that discriminated against people of color to repent on behalf of other Christians who have never said "I'm sorry" to God.

The Rosary is one of the most powerful prayers, and, because racism is a demonic stronghold that has attacked this nation for hundreds of years, I always encourage people to pray the Rosary for this specific intention, as well as for the souls of our ancestors who have not repented.



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



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

Black and Gold Auction

Thank you for your support of our Black and Gold Auction this year. We are completely humbled by the generosity of our community that continues to support us in these difficult times of the pandemic.

Our auction well exceeded our best expectations! We are projecting a generous net auction profit above what we budgeted. Thank you!

This grand success is in large part due to the great leadership of our auction committee. A special thanks to Katie and John Meier and the many people who assisted them in making this evening such a success for our community.

Our primary project for the Fund-A-Need is a bonus for our hard-working educators. We will make final preparations for this in the near future. Thank you for your generous support of our educators who have sacrificed much for our students and community this past year.

Lent

With the first few days of Lent behind us, we begin our first full week of the Lenten season.

On the first page of the bulletin, you will find a schedule of events for this week, including the different liturgies, talks, and opportunities for prayer. Most of these will be livestreamed on our YouTube channel so we invite you to join us live or on demand.

Sunday evening, we will have a time for Evening Prayer at 5:30pm followed by a talk on Confession. Specifically this week, I will talk about why we even have this sacrament. Also, I will take questions from those in attendance and also answer questions that have been sent in via e-mail, phone, or in the collection basket. These questions can be on the topic from the previous week, from the current week, or anything else faith-related.

Please also make sure you are signed up for Flocknote. We are trying out a new service featuring

Bishop Robert Barron. There will be special e-mails sent out throughout Lent, featuring reflections from the Bishop. There are many more that we can provide if people like them and find them helpful. We greatly appreciate your input on this decision!

School Registration Update

Have you registered for school yet? We are offering a \$100 coupon off of the registration fee for getting in 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 paying tuition, 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 ttof-stl.org to apply for a scholarship. To apply does not cost you or the parish anything, so please do so today!

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

Weekly Devotion for the Year of St. Joseph

Dear St. Joseph! Adopt us as thy children; take charge of our salvation. Watch over us day and night; preserve us from occasions of sin. Obtain for us purity of body and soul, and the spirit of prayer. Through thy intercession with Jesus, grant us a spirit of sacrifice, of humility, and of self-denial. Obtain for us a burning love for Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, and a sweet, tender love for Mary, our Mother. Saint Joseph, be with us in life, be with us in death, and obtain for us a favorable judgement from Jesus, our merciful Savior. Amen.



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 #