

# SAINT RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time  
November 8, 2020

## Reading I

Wis 6:12-16

Resplendent and unfading is wisdom, and she is readily perceived by those who love her, and found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known in anticipation of their desire; Whoever watches for her at dawn shall not be disappointed, for he shall find her sitting by his gate. For taking thought of wisdom is the perfection of prudence, and whoever for her sake keeps vigil shall quickly be free from care; because she makes her own rounds, seeking those worthy of her, and graciously appears to them in the ways, and meets them with all solicitude.

## Responsorial Psalm

PS 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

**R. (2b) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

O God, you are my God whom I seek; for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts like the earth, parched, lifeless and without water.

**R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

Thus have I gazed toward you in the sanctuary to see your power and your glory, For your kindness is a greater good than life; my lips shall glorify you.

**R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

Thus will I bless you while I live; lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name. As with the riches of a banquet shall my soul be satisfied, and with exultant lips my mouth shall praise you.

**R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

I will remember you upon my couch, and through the night-watches I will meditate on you: You are my help, and in the shadow of your wings I shout for joy.

**R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

## Reading II

1 Thes. 4:13-18

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep. Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself, with a word of command, with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God, will come down from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore, console one another with these words.

## Gospel

MT 25:1-13

Jesus told his disciples this parable: "The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones, when taking their lamps, brought no oil with them, but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps. Since the bridegroom was long delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep. At midnight, there was a cry, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'" Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise ones replied, 'No, for there may not be enough for us and you. Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.' While they went off to buy it, the bridegroom came and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him. Then the door was locked. Afterwards the other virgins came and said, 'Lord, Lord, open the door for us!' But he said in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.' Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

**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** Summer Hours

**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

### *Pope Francis and Civil Unions*

Last month, headlines began to emerge on Catholic news websites that the Holy Father was changing Church teaching on civil unions for same-sex couples. Here, I want to address the controversy and the recent statement of clarification from the Vatican.

The controversy originated with a documentary film about the Holy Father called, "Francesco." In this film, there is a 20-second clip in which the Holy Father supposedly states about persons with same-sex attractions and civil unions, "You can't kick someone out of a family, nor make their life miserable for this. What we have to have is a civil union law; that way they are legally covered." This comment seems to say that the Church is for civil unions for same-sex couples.

However, a recent letter from the Vatican has brought clarification to this comment. The filmmakers took the answers to two separate questions, spliced them together, and presented them as one quote without respecting the context of either answer.

The first sentence of the quote is reflective of current Church teaching. In *Amoris Laetitia*, the Holy Father affirms the difficulty that exists at times between parents and children who experience same-sex attraction. In spite of this difficulty, the Pope and the synod teaches,

We would like before all else to reaffirm that every person, regardless of sexual orientation, ought to be respected in his or her dignity and treated with consideration, while 'every sign of unjust discrimination' is to be carefully avoided, particularly any form of aggression and violence (250).

The next part of the quote comes from a different question. In this question, the Holy Father is asked if he has become more liberal on same-sex marriage due to the work of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Father, while acknowledging the grace of the Spirit, affirmed that it is incongruous to speak of same-sex marriage. After this, he affirmed that same-sex couples in civil unions should have civil protections.

The question is, what does Pope Francis mean

by civil unions?

In 2003, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith issued a document concerning civil unions and marriage for same-sex couples. This document affirms what was taught by Pope Francis in *Amoris Laetitia* that persons with same-sex attractions are to be respected. This respect, however, cannot in any way imply approval of same-sex marriage or civil unions.

So the Church has taught that civil marriages or civil unions akin to marriage are not acceptable. In clarifying the comments of Pope Francis, the Vatican referred to an interview Pope Francis gave in 2014. In this interview, the Holy Father states,

Marriage is between a man and a woman. The secular states want to justify civil unions to regulate different situations of coexistence, moved by the need to regulate economic aspects between persons as, for example, to ensure health care. They are coexistence pacts of a different nature, of which I wouldn't be able to give a list of the different forms. It's necessary to look at the different cases and to evaluate them in their variety.

According to this understanding, the Holy Father is looking at civil unions not as something akin to marriage, but instead as a civil device to regulate economic activity within a state. Such a union would be different from marriage and would fit into a place where the Church would see it as a civil matter and outside of her competency to comment on.

Such an understanding would fall in line with the teachings of former Pontiffs. In response to a 1997 law in San Francisco legalizing same-sex marriage, Cardinal Levada, who was chosen by Pope Benedict XVI to succeed him at the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, allowed health care benefits to be extended to a person living with an Archdiocesan employee, regardless of his/her status. If Pope Benedict saw this decision as contrary to the 2003 teaching he wrote on such a critical issue, then why would he choose Cardinal Levada to follow him at the CDF? (Continued on the next page.)

### 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.

There is here, then, no real controversy. The Holy Father's comments are in line with Church teaching. Pope Francis continues to try to articulate a teaching for persons with same-sex attractions that is authentic to the magisterium while encouraging these persons to continue to practice the Catholic faith.

May we continue to pray for the Holy Father daily as he exercises his office of leading the Church closer to Our Lord.

*4:30pm Mass on Christmas Eve*

As has been advertised for the last few weeks, our most popular Mass of the year, 4:30pm, will be open to attendance by reservation only. We will have two Masses at the same time: one in the church and one in the gym.

To sign up to attend either of these Masses, please contact the parish office at parish@straphaelarchangel.org or 314.352.8100. Signups will be conducted on a first come, first served basis. When the church and gym have reached their capacity, we will start a waiting list to fill any cancellations. Please remember that we will also offer a 6:30pm Mass that night in church as well as the 10:00pm Mass.

*Black and Gold Auction*

We are so excited to announce the Black and Gold Cozy Auction at Home! While we all won't be gathered in the gym as always, we are working toward a very fun event that spreads beyond our school walls. Ticketing information is being finalized now and we will have an announcement on our options for this year in the coming weeks.

If you have an item to contribute to our silent auction, please feel free to drop it off at the parish office at your convenience. There is a donation form in the bulletin for you to complete and attach to your item, so we have the appropriate description of the item and its value for our website. Extra forms are available on our website and in the parish office.

If you have any questions, please contact katiemeier82@gmail.com.

Thank you for your generosity!

*On The Road Again*

I will be leaving on Wednesday this week to go on my annual retreat. This retreat will NOT be 30 days long this time. I will be gone for about 10 days between drive time and 8 days of retreat.

As I will be on retreat, I will not have access to my phone or e-mail, except for emergencies. The parish staff does know how to reach me should the need arise.

I want to thank our parish and school staff and Msgr. Stehly for their extra efforts while I am away with the Lord. -Fr. John #SRAstrong

**A PRAYER FOR VETERANS**

Dear Lord,

Today we honor our veterans, worthy men and women who gave their best when they were called upon to serve and protect their country.

We pray that you will bless them for their unselfish service in the continual struggle to preserve our freedoms, our safety, and our country's heritage, for all of us.

Bless them abundantly for the hardships they faced, for the sacrifices they made, and for their many different contributions to America's victories over tyranny and oppression.

We respect them, we thank them, we honor them, we are proud of them. We pray that you will watch over these special people and bless them with peace and happiness.

The St. Raphael Men's Club has been unable to have its monthly meetings since February because of the effort by the St. Louis Archdiocese to protect those involved in parish activities. In a recent drawing of Youth Club tickets at another location, the following winners were picked for the months from March to December. Congratulations to all of the winners and thank you for supporting the work of the Men's Club by buying Youth Club Tickets.

March	August
\$100 Paul Beckerle	\$100 Steve Doss
\$50 Tim Wolf	\$50 Tim Wolf
\$50 D. Powderly	\$50 Chris Murphey
April	September
\$100 Jim Shrewsbury	\$100 Taylor Hiette
\$50 Patrick Jugo	\$50 Don Mitchell
\$50 Larry McLeese	\$50 Marge King
May	October
\$100 Dan Harbaugh	\$100 Bev Raymo
\$50 Mary Warnecke	\$50 Jenny Delf
\$50 Carol Sykora	\$50 Diebold Family
June	November
\$100 Pat Keating	\$100 Mike Huss
\$50 Laura Geiser	\$50 Jerry Geiser
\$50 Pat Keating	\$50 Jim Shrewsbury
July	December
\$100 Mary Ann Winkelmann	\$100 Larreta Divis
\$50 Bart Saracino	\$50 Jerry Geiser
\$50 Dorothy Lawson	\$50 Marie Riley



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

**Monday, November 9**  
 7:00am Sophia Wimer  
 8:00am Dick Schroeder

**Tuesday, November 10**  
 7:00am Michael Adams  
 8:00am Maita Tiemann

**Wednesday, November 11**  
 7:00am Jost Family  
 8:00am Augusta Hoffmann

**Thursday, November 12**  
 7:00am Pauline Zagroba  
 8:00am Lynn Fischer

**Friday, November 13**  
 7:00am Don Deachan

**Saturday, November 14**  
 7:00am Elsa Straub  
 4:30pm Elizabeth Hager

**Sunday, November 15**  
 8:00am Henry Tepe  
 10:00am People of the Parish

## DAILY READINGS

Monday: Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 18:35-43  
 Tuesday: Rv 3:1-6, 14-22; Ps 15:2-5; Lk 19:1-10  
 Wednesday: Rv 4:1-11; Ps 150:1b-6; Lk 19:11-28, or (for the memorial of the Dedication) Acts 28:11-16, 30-31; Ps 98:1-6; Mt 14:22-33  
 Thursday: Rv 5:1-10; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Lk 19:41-44  
 Friday: Rv 10:8-11; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; Lk 19:45-48  
 Saturday: Rv 11:4-12; Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10; Lk 20:27-40  
 Sunday: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17; Ps 23:1-3, 5-6; 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28; Mt 25:31-46

*“Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour.” - Matthew 25:13*

Many of us have put off doing something because we think we are too busy. We’ve all said, “I’ll do it later when I have time.” Unfortunately, too many of us apply this attitude to our Faith. Jesus’ call is urgent, in the here and now, in our current circumstances. Let’s not delay. How is God calling us to use our gifts today? None of us is guaranteed tomorrow.

## Your Contributions to God and Parish

### November 1, 2020

(Envelopes Used)

	This Week	FY to Date
<b>Regular Env. (92)</b>	\$ 7,769.00	\$ 81,307.00
<b>Loose Money</b>	\$ 726.00	\$ 15,299.00
<b>School Support</b>	\$ 285.00	\$ 2,810.00
<b>Building Fund</b>	\$ 560.00	\$ 3,710.00
<b>Holy Days</b>	\$ 375.00	\$ 1,368.00
<b>Online Giving (54)</b>	\$ 2,243.00	\$ 45,199.00

**Thanksgiving** (\$ 60.00)

**World Missions** (\$ 25.00)

**Retired Religious** (\$ 438.00)

**Tithing** (\$ 20.00)

**Grand Total** \$ 12,501.00

**Total for Parish** \$ 11,958.00 \$ 149,978.00

**Amount Needed** \$ 9,000.00 \$ 162,000.00

**Difference** \$ 2,958.00 (\$ 12,022.00)

**FYE 2020** (\$ 37,795.00)



This beautiful, handmade quilt will be raffled after the 10:00am Mass on Sunday, December 6. Be sure to watch your mail for ticket information. Or, if you need tickets, please contact the parish office at 314.352.8100.

**THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!**  
**THE SRA CLASS OF 2021**  
**WOULD LIKE TO THANK**  
**EVERYONE WHO**  
**SUPPORTED OUR HAUNTED**  
**HALLOWEEN EGG HUNT.**

Stay tuned for details on our next fundraiser!



### BIBLE STUDY

Unfortunately, the new Philippians: Life in Christ Bible Study program has been postponed until further notice. Please watch the bulletin and Flocknote for further updates.

### FROM ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

In today's Gospel Jesus challenges us to "stay awake" by taking time to seriously look at ourselves, the priorities of our lives, and how we are growing spiritually. We should ask ourselves "What would Jesus Christ do?" and then donate to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that those who are suffering will be able to celebrate Thanksgiving.

## 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  
 NOVEMBER 14, 2020  
 DECEMBER 12, 2020  
 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 to 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](mailto:maryem@brick.net).

# Freshly Shelled Azalea Brand Nuts

Benefits the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Raphael  
Parish

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Qty.	Item	Price Each	Total Cost
	1 lb. Mammoth size Pecan Halves	\$12.00	
	1 lb. Pecan Pieces	\$11.00	
	1 lb. English Walnuts	\$8.00	
	1 lb. Gourmet Mix (pecans, cashews, brazil, hazel & almonds)	\$10.00	
	1 lb. Toasted, Salted Cashews	\$10.00	
	12 oz. Deluxe Praline Pecans	\$9.00	

Total Amount of Order (Enclosed): \_\_\_\_\_

Some Pecans will be available prior to Thanksgiving. If interested in this early opportunity to make a Turkey Day Pecan Pie, please contact Patti Webers at 314.496.8836 or you will be notified when nuts are available for pick-up in St. Raphael's parish office. If questions, please contact Patti Webers.

***Please include payment with order. Checks may  
be made out to St. Raphael the Archangel  
Order Deadline: November 22***

Thank you for your Support!

## 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.



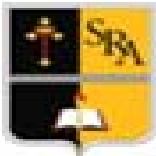
Saint Raphael the Archangel

**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@straphaelarchangel.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 #