

# School News

## *From Mrs. Hayes*

Thank you, thank you for the outstanding participation in and support of our Catholic Schools Week service project, Penny War Between the Even and Odd Classrooms, in honor of Ben Polson. The St. Raphael community collected \$3,130.58 for BackStoppers, Inc. This is just an amazing donation to a wonderful cause close to many of our hearts.

Odd Number Classrooms collected a total of \$1,682.30 in pennies, silver, and bills. They also collected the most silver coins. Even Number Classrooms collected a total of \$1,417.67 in pennies, silver, and bills. In addition, we had a few donations from outside the classroom settings.

Summer Camp - St. Raphael is planning on hosting Summer Camp again this summer, but we are still looking for a Summer Camp Director. Ms. Indelicato has decided to step down from this role this year. To be clear, Ms. Molly is not leaving us and will continue to be our Preschool Director and Preschool "A" teacher next year.

Please inform the school if you know of a possible candidate for the Summer Camp Director position.

## *From Ms. Molly: Pre-K A*

February is almost over and the Angels have been hard at work! We have finished the letter I and H and now we are working on the letter C.

They have learned about hibernation and how it starts with the changing of the season to winter.

They had a wonderful time at the Valentine party. Thanks to all the parents for making all the parties special! Thank you and God bless you!

## *From Mrs. Magee: Kindergarten*

Kindergarten has been busy this winter! We celebrated the 100th day of school, are working on a money unit learning coins and their value and we are beginning guided reading groups this month. We are looking forward to the upcoming Lenten season and are planning a fun service project!

## *From Ms. Franks: 2nd Grade*

Second grade had a wonderful time celebrating TWOSDAY on 2/22/22. We dressed as twins and did plenty of partner activities! We have spent

the past month learning about the world around us in so many subjects! Our Science, Social Studies, and Math units have been focused on the Food Chain, Black History Month, and Time!

Second grade has officially begun Sacramental preparation for our First Holy Communion! Please keep us in your prayers as we take this huge step in our faith journey

## *From Ms. Polson: 3rd Grade*

Third graders are getting good at Spelling Oral Dictation. We can listen to sentences and write them out on paper in our most beautiful cursive. Valentine's Day was fun; we had a little party and played Bingo. We made a heart that hugged you and enjoyed looking at all our Valentine cards.

Catholic Schools Week left us with many good memories. We raised a lot of money for Backstoppers in Ben Polson's name. The day that was really fun was dressing up like a teacher. In Social Studies we are learning about the three branches of government.

Mrs. Polson would like to thank everyone for all of the thoughts, prayers, cards, and gestures of sympathy. Your kindness is very much appreciated.

## *From Mr. Kraudel: Science/STREAM (4-5-6-7-8)*

Fourth graders are learning about the types of weathering of rocks, and erosion.

Fifth graders are learning about constellations, stars, galaxies, and our sun.

Sixth, seventh, and eighth graders are learning about alternative energies and just completed a poster on advantages and disadvantages of one of the types.

## All Things New/Disciple Maker Index

All Things New is a strategic pastoral planning effort that will evaluate the effectiveness of the Church in St. Louis in proclaiming the Gospel and will identify opportunities for improvement and renewal in our parishes, schools, offices, and agencies. This substantial undertaking will span the next several months.

During Phase 1, data is being collected from many sources. This phase will last a year due to the large scope of aspects within Church life that need to be examined.

This past summer, 650 lay people from across the diocese were consulted as to how we can strengthen parishes and foster discipleship and evangelization.

A key question they considered is: As the number of active Catholics declines, how do we ensure that the richness of the Gospel and our Catholic heritage is proclaimed to future generations?

The Church in St. Louis looks very different in 2022 from the way it looked in 1955. Given the decline in active Catholics, as well as priests, the physical landscape of the Church will need to evolve with society.

By fall of 2023, the Archdiocese aims to propose several models for this future structure of parishes, schools, and ministries.

Please participate in Phase 1 by completing the 10-minute survey.

The feedback of every adult in your household is important to St. Raphael Parish! High school students, your voice needs to be heard too!

Our parish goal this week is to reach 300 surveys! You can fill out the survey online. Scan the code or visit the SRA website: [straphaelarchangel.org](http://straphaelarchangel.org). The survey is front and center on the SRA page.



Paper copies of the survey are also available if you would prefer that method. Please contact the parish office if you would like to receive a paper copy.

## Theology on Tap/Wine and the Divine

As we continue to embrace the call of All Things New, one idea being raised is to bring a speaker series to St. Raphael, built on a "Theology on Tap" model.

For those who are not familiar with this model, there is a social gathering for about a half-hour or so, with either beer or wine available for those who so choose and non-alcoholic beverages as well. There would then be a speaker who would talk for 15-30 minutes on a faith-based topic and take questions, followed by more time for socializing afterward.

If you are interested in bringing this idea to St. Raphael, we are looking for a few families to help coordinate and run this series. We are not necessarily asking people to host this in their homes, but possibly at the parish or at a local restaurant. Please contact Joe or Kristina Cyr or me.

## Family Mass Is Returning!

We will have our first Family Mass next Sunday at 10:00am! It is also a Donut Sunday! I hope you are planning to join us for these joyous events.

## In Gratitude

Thank you to the Men's Club for hosting the great Fish Fry this past Friday. It was a great opportunity to be together as a community of faith during this time of spiritual renewal.

Thank you, too, to the Men's Club, to the Ladies' Club, and to the Choir for the opportunity to speak to your groups about All Things New. If your group or if a group of parents would like me or one of our key parish leaders to discuss All Things New, please contact the parish office.

## Stations of the Cross This Friday

Due to Spring Break, we will pray the Stations of the Cross as a parish community at noon only this Friday, March 18. The books will be in church for anyone who would like to pray the Stations privately at another time that day.

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