



# SAINT RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

DECEMBER 22, 2024 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



### WELCOME!

#### VISIT OR CONTACT US

6047 Bishops Place  
Saint Louis, MO 63109

314.352.8100  
straphaelarchangel.org

Mon.-Thu. | 7:30am-4:00pm  
Fri. | 7:30am-12:00pm

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#### SCHOOL INFORMATION

6000 Jamieson Avenue  
Saint Louis, MO 63109

314.352.9474 | 314.351.7477 (Fax)

Mon.-Fri. | 7:00am-3:00pm

### MASS SCHEDULE

#### WEEKEND MASS

Saturday | 7:00am, 4:30pm  
Sunday | 9:00am

#### WEEKDAY MASS

Mon. - Fri. | 8:00am

#### CONFESSION

Monday - Friday | 7:30am  
Saturday | 3:30pm  
Other | By Appointment

#### CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

Mon.-Fri. | 8:00am-2:00pm  
Saturday | 8:00am-4:30pm



#### PARISH CLERGY

Fr. Thomas Molini, Pastor  
thomasmolini@archstl.org

Fr. Robert Lawson, Associate Pastor  
robertlawson@archstl.org

#### LAY LEADERSHIP

Brian McCarthy, Pastoral Council  
brianmccarthy@peaknet.net

Liz Murphey, School Board  
schoolboard@straphaelarchangel.org

Joseph Cyr, Finance Council  
314.335.7322

Jacqueline Ilg, HSA President  
hsa@straphaelarchangel.org

#### PARISH STAFF

Ray and Mary Anne Braun, Music Ministers  
Braun@straphaelarchangel.org

Diane Halbert, Parish Office Manager  
halbert@straphaelarchangel.org

Mickey Janos, Admn. Assistant  
janos@straphaelarchangel.org

Pam Hager, Parish Support Staff/  
Child Safety Coordinator  
hager@straphaelarchangel.org

Robert Schlueter, Maintenance

Julie Hayes, School Principal  
hayes@straphaelarchangel.org

Kathy Shaver, School Secretary  
secretary@straphaelarchangel.org

Qi Franz, Cafeteria Manager  
franz@straphaelarchangel.org

Sarah Henderson, Youth Minister  
hendersons@stgabrielstl.org

DECEMBER 22, 2024 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## Fr. Molini's Notes

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

Our Gospel this Sunday shares with us the beauty of seeing God in the relationships of our lives. Mary and Elizabeth share a remarkable moment of faith and joy as they are both able to see the hand of God in their lives, and respond to each other in the Holy Spirit. This Visitation moment is lifted up for us in the Advent season to call us to recognize the work of God in the relationships of our lives. Have I made myself open to God's work in my own life, allowing the Holy Spirit to call me into repentance, self-giving, and charity toward others? How do I extend to others the generosity that God has shown to me in giving me life, family, friends, and a faith community? Do I prayerfully consider the movement of God's will in my life and gratefully recognize it in the lives of others?

The Advent season calls us to celebrate relationships, first and foremost, the relationship established by Jesus taking flesh in the Incarnation. His act of love radiates throughout creation, redeeming us to God. This act of sacrifice is our call to self-sacrifice and generosity to others in the image of Jesus Christ whose birth we celebrate. Mary's visit to Elizabeth brings Christ to another, and Elizabeth responds in praise and gratitude. May we recognize Christ in others, responding in praise and gratitude to God.

### Christmas Masses...and seat saving

The beauty of the Christmas feast is found in the celebration that brings so many home, and home to the church as well. Please remember if you are charged with "saving seats" for others, all empty seats are considered "open" 10 minutes before Mass begins. The ushers will be instructed to begin filling the pews so we can begin Mass on time. Please share the word with others.

#### Christmas Masses:

St. Raphael the Archangel: December 24 – 4:30pm  
December 25 – 9:00am

St. Gabriel the Archangel: December 24 – 4:00pm, 6:00pm, 11:00pm  
December 25 – 6:30am, 8:00am, 10:00am

*Christmas Blessings to you and yours as we celebrate the Birth of Jesus. May our celebration hearken the holiness of life shared with us from God. Merry Christmas!*





**Sunday, December 22**

9:00am Joyce Marcuzzo

**Monday, December 23**

8:00am Bill and Mary Lou Schicker

**Tuesday, December 24**

8:00am Liddy Family

4:30pm Carol McKinney

**Wednesday, December 25**

9:00am Hager and Saar Families

**Thursday, December 26**

8:00am Kris Schneidewind

**Friday, December 27**

8:00am Daniel and Pade Liddy

**Saturday, December 28**

7:00am Dan Harbaugh

4:30pm Ray and Mary Anne Braun, SI

**Sunday, December 29**

9:00am Kathy and Ray Bast

*"For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy."*  
LUKE 1:44

When you hear the Gospel at Mass, do you "leap for joy"? If not, don't blame the lector or priest; rather look inside yourself. What are you doing to grow in friendship with Jesus? How do you prepare for Mass each week? Do you just show up and expect to be entertained? As the Body of Christ, we are called to be active participants, not just passive observers.



**Donut Sunday**

Today is Donut Sunday! Please join your fellow parishioners for a donut after the 9:00am Mass. If you attend 4:30pm Mass, please return on Sunday for a donut and fellowship. We look forward to seeing you! This Donut Sunday is hosted by the Donut Gang.

**Holiday Office Hours**

The parish office will be closed starting at noon on Tuesday, December 24. Normal office hours will resume Friday, December 27, from 7:30am to noon.

**St. Vincent de Paul**

Jesus is born during the night of the year when darkness is the longest. The Savior of the world comes for the people in dark places. The real, lasting, and deep joy is that the Light shines there. Your donations and prayers bring real, lasting, and deep joy to the hearts of our neighbors in need here in our parish boundaries. Thank you for your continued support.

This weekend's Sacred Scripture readings:

**Sunday, December 22:**

Ritual Song: No. 1101

Pray Together: Page 34



**Your Contributions to God and Parish**

Due to early publishing deadlines, the Weekly Offertory information for November 24 was not available when the bulletin went to print.





## ALTAR SERVERS

### SERVERS FOR DECEMBER 23 - 29, 2024

#### Monday, December 23

8:00am Caleb Bernadt Delilah Gore  
Christian Bernadt

#### Tuesday, December 24

8:00am Isa Hogrebe Vivien Smith  
Archie Geisz  
4:30pm Hannah Kratky  
3 Volunteers Needed

#### Wednesday, December 25

9:00am 4 Volunteers Needed

#### Thursday, December 26

8:00am Linus Cyr Xavier Cyr  
Magdalena Niemira

#### Friday, December 27

8:00am Henry Dirnbeck Isa Hogrebe  
Samantha Zouglas

#### Saturday, December 28

4:30pm Katelyn Feldman Lucas Feldman  
Genevieve Montoya

#### Sunday, December 29

9:00am Elle Anstey Jake Anstey  
Emma Rooney

### LECTORS/MINISTERS FOR THE WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 24 - 25

#### LECTORS

**4:30pm** Lindsay Hiette  
**9:00am** Gerry Unger

#### December 28 - 29

Laura Geiser Krissy Sullivan

#### December 24 - 25

#### Extraordinary Ministers

Mary Steck Dennis Matreci  
George Kerry Linda Saracino  
Steve Kratky 1 Volunteer Needed

#### December 28 - 29

Greg Heuing Barb Cramer  
Pam Hager Dennis Matreci  
Brian McCarthy Krissy Sullivan

## UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Monday, December 23

8:00am Church Mass  
3:30pm Gym Basketball Practices  
6:00pm Cafeteria 3rd Gr. Girl Scouts  
7:00pm Raphael Rm. Knights of Columbus  
7:00pm Firepl. Rm. St. Vincent de Paul

#### Tuesday, December 24

8:00am Church Mass  
4:30pm Church Mass

#### Wednesday, December 25

9:00am Church Mass

#### Thursday, December 26

8:00am Church Mass

#### Friday, December 27

7:30am Church Rosary  
8:00am Church Mass  
3:30pm Gym Basketball Practices

#### Saturday, December 28

7:00am Church Mass  
8:00am Church Music Ministry Rehearsal  
9:00am Gym Basketball League Play  
4:30pm Church Mass

#### Sunday, December 29

9:00am Church Mass  
12:00pm Gym Basketball League Play

## DAILY READINGS

Sunday	Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/Heb 10:5-10/ Lk 1:39-45
Monday	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66
Tuesday	<i>Morning:</i> 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Lk 1:67-79
Wednesday	<i>Vigil:</i> Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 (2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 <i>Night:</i> Is 9:1- 6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 (Lk 2:11)/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 <i>Dawn:</i> Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/ Lk 2:15-20 <i>Day:</i> Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3 -4, 5-6 (3c)/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
Thursday	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22
Friday	1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97: 1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Saturday	1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8/Mt 2:13-18
Next Sunday	1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-1 0 (see 5a)/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

## **WINTER OUTREACH - A MINISTRY OF MERCY**

Encouraged by our Catholic Social Teachings, "Option for the Poor and Vulnerable," many parish communities are committed to making St. Louis Winter Outreach a faith-filled 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 are asking for help in providing meals to an overflow shelter.

**DATES: SATURDAYS (1:00pm Dropoff)**

**January 11**

**February 8**

Please consider joining our Ministry of Mercy by providing one or more of the following:

9x13" Casserole: meat, fish, veggie, or breakfast

Cookies, cupcakes, breads: (12 to 24 servings)

Prepared food should be baked, frozen, wrapped, and marked. Donations are to be dropped off at Our Lady of Sorrows parking lot at 1:00pm. If needed, other arrangements can be made. For more information or if you would like to share a dish, please contact Mary Ellen Mueller: 314.374.1712 or email [maryem@brick.net](mailto:maryem@brick.net).

## **Infant Baptism**

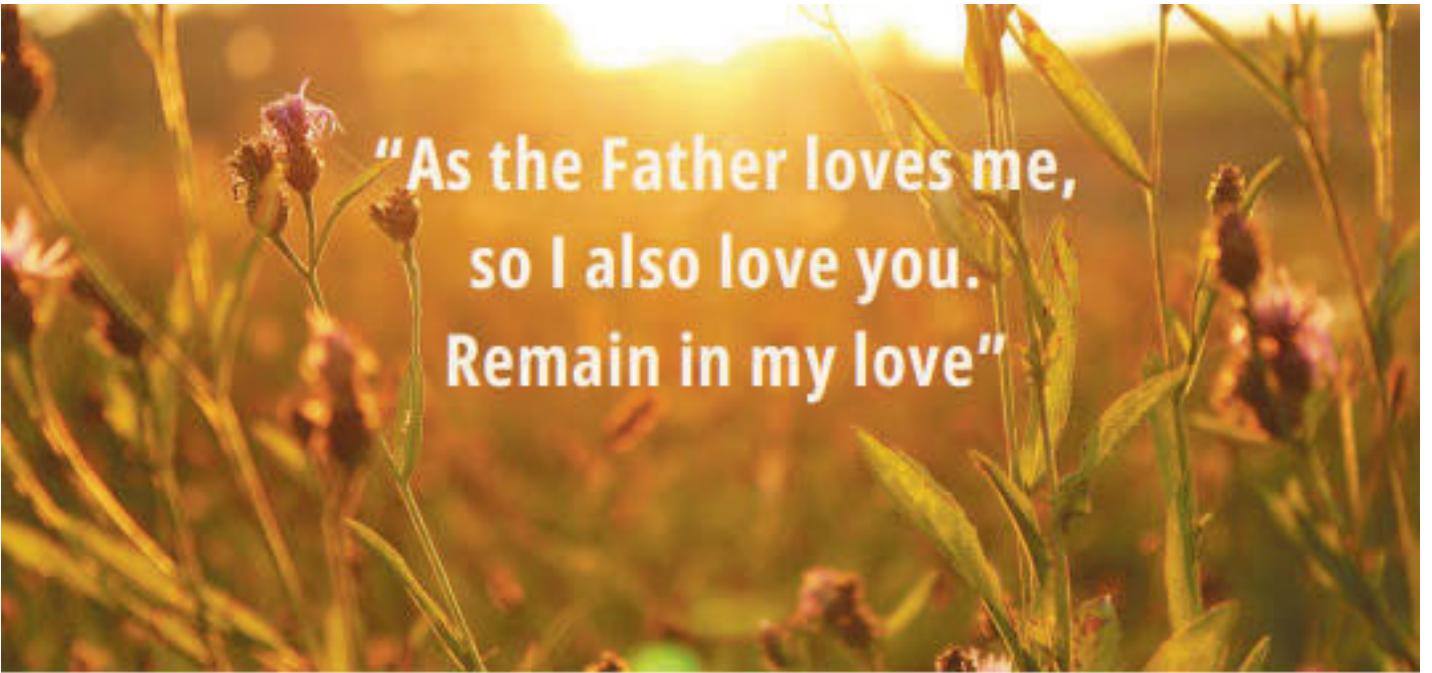
Baptism is the first Sacrament of Christian Initiation. For a child to be baptized at St. Raphael, parents must be registered and practicing Catholics. Parents are expected to participate in a Baptismal Preparation Class. The class is held on the first Monday of each month at 7:30pm in the rectory lower level of St. Gabriel the Archangel. Please call the St. Gabriel parish office at 314.353.6303 to register for the class, or contact the St. Raphael parish office at 314.352.8100.

## **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.

## **New and Expectant Parent Network (N.E.X.T.)**

The SRA New and Expectant Parent Network (N.E.X.T.) exists to support parents who are expecting or have recently given birth to or lost a child. The Network is always willing to accept new members and referrals or requests for our support. This includes meal delivery for about four to six weeks, prayers, and any baby supplies needed for the family. We are also in contact with our sister parish, Most Holy Trinity, to offer the same support to members in need at that parish. You may contact N.E.X.T. at [nextministry@straphaelarchangel.org](mailto:nextministry@straphaelarchangel.org). Thank you.



**"As the Father loves me,  
so I also love you.  
Remain in my love"**

## **WOMEN'S WEEKEND RETREAT**

**Feb. 28- Mar 2, 2025**



**FRIDAY 5:00PM - SUNDAY 1:00 PM**



**Villa Maria Retreat Center 1903 E Lake  
Shore Dr, Springfield, IL 62712  
(1.5 hours from STL)**



**\$300 shared room + bath  
\$350 single room + bath**

**Retreat given by: Fr. Russell Ward LC**

  
**SCAN HERE  
TO REGISTER**



Come away from the busyness of life for a silent retreat based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola.

Amid the peaceful, beautiful surroundings of the Villa Maria Retreat Center, overlooking Springfield Lake, you will have the refreshing opportunity to pray, to learn about yourself, to deepen your knowledge of the Scriptures and the Catholic faith, to seek God's will for your life, and to experience the tremendous, personal love that Jesus Christ has for you.

### **What is included in the retreat?**

**Daily Mass - Directed Meditations - Spiritual  
Guidance - Sacrament of Reconciliation -  
Practical Talks - Eucharistic Adoration -  
Time for personal prayer**

### **What is included with my registration fee?**

The fee includes a spacious room with private bath, individually controlled heating and air conditioning, towels, linens, snacks, meals, and retreat materials.

For more information, contact Maria Rivero  
stlouis@regnumchristi.org | 610-717-8678

**Sponsored by Regnum Christi St. Louis**

# Auction Donation Blitz and Blues Raffle!

**Save the Date: 2025 Black and Gold Auction is Saturday, February 15, 2025!**  
**Please consider donating to the Auction when holiday shopping!**



**Donations brought to the parish office before New Years Day will be entered into a drawing to win four Blues tickets donated by a friend of SRA! (Mutually agreeable date)**

Check us out at:

**“St. Raphael the Archangel Black and Gold Auction”**



Donation dropoff at parish office (courtyard entrance) - 314.352.8100:  
Monday-Thursday 7:30am – 4:00pm & Friday 7:30am – 12:00pm  
Please fill out the donation form and raffle ticket form below for any donated items  
Forms are available in the parish office  
Questions: contact Mark Pfeiffer - [auction.st.raaphael@gmail.com](mailto:auction.st.raaphael@gmail.com)

## Donation Blitz – Blues Raffle Ticket

(Please also submit “Donation Form”)

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

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

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

Item Donated: \_\_\_\_\_

Value: \_\_\_\_\_







Saint Raphael the Archangel

## Black & Gold Dinner Auction

Saturday February 15th,  
2025

**All donations must  
be received by  
February 10th, 2025**

Tickets are on sale now!



# 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 items(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

For online giving or to purchase tickets, visit the  
Auction website at  
<https://blackandgold25.givesmart.com>

### QUESTIONS?

Contact the Auction committee at [auction.st.raaphael@gmail.com](mailto:auction.st.raaphael@gmail.com).

## 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 ITEMS(S)

SOLICITED BY \_\_\_\_\_









NOTES/SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

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Thank you for your support!



	St. Raphael the Archangel	50/50 Raffle	Name: _____
	Black and Gold Dinner Auction	Ticket	Phone #: _____
	Saturday, February 15, 2025		Address: _____
		\$20 per ticket	
	Drawing will be held during our live auction!	or sheet of 8 for \$125	*Ticket sales will end at 7p on 2/15/2024.* *Need not be present to win*
	St. Raphael the Archangel	50/50 Raffle	Name: _____
	Black and Gold Dinner Auction	Ticket	Phone #: _____
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	Black and Gold Dinner Auction	Ticket	Phone #: _____
	Saturday, February 15, 2025		Address: _____
		\$20 per ticket	
	Drawing will be held during our live auction!	or sheet of 8 for \$125	*Ticket sales will end at 7p on 2/15/2024.* *Need not be present to win*

**Welcome to ARCHANGEL YOUTH MINISTRY (AYM)** covering the parishes of the St. Louis Hills neighborhood (St. Gabriel & St. Raphael). **AYM** is open to all high school teens. No sign-up necessary and teens do not need to be from the St. Louis Hills parishes to participate. High school teens can attend on a regular basis or drop in as it fits their schedules.

Weekly **Sunday Life Teen Nights** (6:45-8:30pm in Gabriel House) include snacks, socializing, games, talks, and discussions.

**Wednesday R&R Nights** (7-8:30pm in Gabriel House) are unstructured evenings for teens to hang out (recharge & reconnect). See the AYM calendar for specific dates.

### **Luke 18 Retreat 2025:**

"Believe" | April 25 - 27

Team Member (high school teens) registration is now OPEN via the Google Form link. Please read all the required preparation meeting dates and times before registering and contact Sarah with any questions.

Google Form Registration:

<https://forms.gle/ZkwF9YdUiRwpc7qY6>

### **REMINDER!**

**TONIGHT! Sunday, December 22**, is our Teen Mass with a Christmas Party to follow in Gabriel House. Pizza will be served for dinner and one of the games will be a white elephant gift exchange. All gifts should be something found at home (nothing broken nor trash) and wrapped.

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

**\*April 25 - 27 | Luke 18 Retreat!** | for 8th graders, led by high school teens | Registration and more information to come.

**\*July 18 - 20 | AYM at Steubenville 2025!** | for current 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade students | Registration is OPEN!

### **STAY CONNECTED with AYM**

Follow us on Instagram @archangelym

Like our Facebook Group: Archangel Youth Ministry

Join the SGA or SRA Flocknote Group: Youth Ministry

Visit the Youth Group page on the SGA parish website

Contact Youth Minister: Sarah Henderson - hendersons@stgabrielstl.org

### **LARGE-PRINT MISSALETTE**

The new, large-print edition of the *Pray Together* missalette for December 1, 2024, through April 12, 2025, is now available. If you would like one, please stop by the parish office to pick one up. The office hours are Monday - Thursday from 7:30am until 4:00pm and Friday from 7:30am until noon.

### **Mass Intentions**

Mass intentions are available in the parish office. Please call the office or stop by Monday through Thursday, 7:30am until 4:00pm, and Friday 7:30am until noon, with your Special Intention or Repose of the Soul intention requests. The suggested offering is \$10 per Mass intention. If needed, you can pick up a card to send to the family when you drop off your offering.

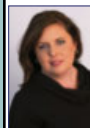




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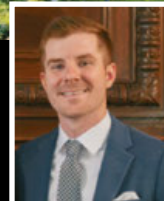
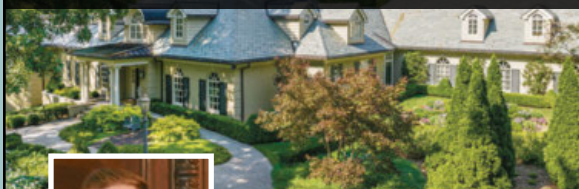


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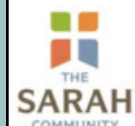
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