



SAINT RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

CATHOLIC CHURCH

DECEMBER 25, 2022 | THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD




WELCOME!

VISIT OR CONTACT US

6047 Bishops Place
Saint Louis, MO 63109
314.352.8100 | 314.353.6603 (Fax)
straphaelarchangel.org

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

 @SRAtoday

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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 | 8:00am, 10:00am

WEEK DAY MASS

Mon. - Fri. | 7:00am
Mon. - Thur. | 8:00am

CONFESSION

Tues., Thu., Sat. | 15 minutes before
7:00am Mass
Saturday | 3:45pm-4:20pm
Other | By Appointment

CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

Mon.-Fri. | 8:00am-2:00pm
Saturday | 8:00am-4:30pm
Sunday | 9:00am-10:00am



PARISH CLERGY

Fr. John Mayo, Pastor
frjohn@straphaelarchangel.org

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

Bob Leake, Deacon
dnbob@straphaelarchangel.org

LAY LEADERSHIP

Brian McCarthy, Parish Council
brianmccarthy@peaknet.net

Katelyn Pfeiffer, School Board
314.440.5178

Joseph Cyr, Finance Council
314.335.7322

Casey Kleekamp, HSA President
caseykleekamp@yahoo.com

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

DECEMBER 25, 2022 THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

READINGS FOR DECEMBER 25, THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Entrance Antiphon (For 8:00am Mass Only)

Cf. Is 9: 1,5; Lk 1: 33

Today a light will shine upon us, for the Lord is born for us; and he will be called Wondrous God, Prince of Peace, Father of Future Ages: and his reign will be without end.

The readings to be used will be announced at Mass as well as the appropriate page numbers of the readings in the Ritual Song (maroon book).



A Family Service for Blessing the Nativity Scene

All make the Sign of the Cross as the leader says:

Our help is in the name of the Lord. **R. Who made heaven and earth.**

One of those present or the leader reads a text of sacred Scripture, for example, Luke 2:1 (lines 1-8) or Isaiah 7:10 (lines 10-15, the birth of Emmanuel).

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord. **R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

The leader prays with hands joined:

God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love. When our need for a Savior was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love. Lord, bless all who look upon this manger; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise our thoughts to him, who is God-with-us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns forever and ever. R. Amen.

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.



Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 25

8:00am Hager and Saar Families

10:00am People of the Parish

Monday, December 26

7:00am Dorothy May Warburton

Tuesday, December 27

7:00am Daniel and Page Liddy, SI

Wednesday, December 28

7:00am Ella Goeppner

Thursday, December 29

7:00am Tim Deachan, SI

Friday, December 30

7:00am Helen Buffa

Saturday, December 31

7:00am Joseph F. and Kathryn H. Darpel

4:30pm Sam and Dorothy Lawson

Sunday, January 1

8:00am People of the Parish

10:00am Marcia Matreci

"And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us..."John 1:14

God made us to be in relationship with Him. He loves each of us individually. Through sin, our bond with God was broken, but he gave us Jesus to restore our relationship. Being a disciples of Jesus, we are given opportunities to obtain eternal life in Heaven. Christmas isn't about the material gifts we receive; it's about the love that God, Our Father, gives us through His Son, Jesus, the best gift we could ever receive.

Due to early publishing deadlines, the Weekly Offertory information for December 18 was not available when the bulletin went to print.

Your Contributions to God and Parish

Dec. 11, 2022	This Week	Year-to-Date
(Envelopes Used)		
Regular Env. (44)	\$ 4,011.00	\$ 117,225.00
Loose Money	\$ 2,639.00	\$ 31,927.00
School Support	\$ 50.00	\$ 5,125.00
Building Fund	\$ 120.00	\$ 8,381.00
Holy Days	\$ 965.00	\$ 2,405.00
Online Giving (56)	\$ 3,514.00	\$ 64,987.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 25.00	
Seminary	(\$ 100.00)	
Tithing	(\$ 45.00)	
Grand Total	\$ 11,469.00	
Total for Parish	\$ 11,324.00	\$ 235,776.00
Amount Needed	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 240,000.00
Difference	<u>\$ 1,324.00</u>	<u>(\$ 4,224.00)</u>
FYE 2022		<u>\$ 46,837.00</u>

From St. Vincent de Paul Society

Today we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. We hear the words of the angel, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy." Today and throughout the New Year, may we take care of our suffering brothers and sisters, bringing hope and not fear. In the month of December, through our gifts, the Society brought the spirit of Christmas to those who are suffering by assisting numerous families with food, gifts, and payment for utility and rent. God bless us this Christmas and always.

ALTAR SERVERS

SERVERS FOR DEC. 26 - JAN. 1, 2023

Monday, December 26

No 8:00am Mass

Tuesday, December 27

No 8:00am Mass

Wednesday, December 28

No 8:00am Mass

Thursday, December 29

No 8:00am mass

Friday, December 30

No 8:00am Mass

Saturday, December 31

4:30pm 3 Volunteers Needed

10:00pm 3 Volunteers Needed

Sunday, January 1

8:00am 3 Volunteers Needed

10:00am 3 Volunteers Needed

DAILY READINGS

Sunday	Vigil: 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 Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20 Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3])/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
Monday	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22
Tuesday	1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Wednesday	1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8/Mt 2:13-18
Thursday	1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/Lk 2:22-
Friday	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Mt 2:13-15, 19-
Saturday	1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13/Jn 1:1-18
Next Sunday	Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

LECTORS FOR THE WEEKEND OF

DECEMBER 30 - 31

4:30pm	8:00am	10:00am
George Kerry	Mary Reck	Dennis Matreci

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, December 26

7:00am Church Mass

7:00pm Parish Office St. Vincent de Paul

Tuesday, December 27

7:00am Church Mass

7:00pm Parish Office Knights of Columbus

Wednesday, December 28

6:30am Church Rosary

7:00am Church Mass

3:00pm Church Eucharistic Adoration

6:00pm Gym 7th Gr. Boys Basketball

7:30pm Church So. City Men's Recollection

8:30pm Gym Men's Basketball

Thursday, December 29

7:00am Church Mass

5:00pm Gym Pre-K to 2nd Gr. Basketball Clinic

6:30pm Parish Office RCIA

Friday, December 30

7:00am Church Mass

7:25am Church Rosary

Saturday, December 31

7:00am Church Mass

4:30pm Church Mass

Sunday, January 1

8:00am Church Mass

10:00am Church Mass



From the Greeting of his Holiness Pope Francis To The Donors of the Nativity Scene and Christmas Tree In Saint Peter's Square

The tree and the Nativity display are two signs that continue to fascinate young and old. The tree, with its lights, reminds us of Jesus who comes to illuminate our darkness, our existence which is often closed up in the shadow of sin, fear and pain. And it suggests to us further reflection: like trees, people too need roots. Because only those who have roots in good soil can stay firm, grow, "mature", and resist the winds that shake them, becoming a point of reference to those who look at them. But, dear friends, without roots none of this can happen; without a firm foundation one remains unstable. It is important to safeguard roots, in life as in faith. In this regard, the Apostle Paul reminds us of the foundation in which to root our lives in order to remain firm: he says to remain "rooted in Jesus Christ" (cf. *Col 2:7*). This is what the Christmas tree reminds us of: to be rooted in Jesus Christ.

And so we come to the Nativity scene, which speaks to us of the birth of the Son of God who became man to be close to each one of us. In its genuine poverty, the Nativity scene helps us rediscover the true richness of Christmas, and purify ourselves of the many aspects that pollute the Christmas landscape. Simple and familiar, the Nativity scene recalls a Christmas that is different from the consumerist and commercial Christmas: it is something else. It reminds us how good it is for us to cherish moments of silence and prayer

during our days, which are often overwhelmed by frenzy. Silence fosters contemplation of the Child Jesus, helps us to become intimate with God, with the fragile simplicity of a tiny newborn, with the meekness of his being laid down, with the tender affection of the swaddling clothes that envelop him.

Roots and contemplation: the tree teaches us about roots, the Nativity scene invites us to contemplation. Let us not forget these two human and Christian attitudes. And if we truly want to celebrate Christmas, let us rediscover through the Nativity scene the surprise and amazement of smallness, the smallness of God, who makes himself small, who is not born in the splendor of appearances, but in the poverty of a stable. And to meet him one must reach him there, where he is. One must lower oneself, one must make oneself small, leave all vanity behind, to arrive where he is. And prayer is the best way to say thank you before this gift of free love, to say thank you to Jesus who wishes to enter our homes and our hearts. Yes, God loves us so much that he shares our humanity and our lives. He never leaves us by ourselves, He is at our side in all circumstances, in joy as in sorrow. Even in the worst moments, he is there, because he is the Emmanuel, the God with us, the light that illuminates darkness and the tender presence that accompanies us on our journey.

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

On behalf of Monsignor Stehly, Deacon Jerry, Deacon Bob, and our entire parish and school staffs, may the Lord bless you and your families this Christmas of 2022!

Eucharistic Adoration

Due to the Christmas Holiday, we will cancel Eucharistic Adoration this week and will resume Eucharistic Adoration next Wednesday, January 4, 2023.

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



Christmas Preludes

The choir will perform a variety of Christmas carols for 20-30 minutes before Mass on Christmas Eve (carols at 4:00pm) and Christmas morning (carols at 9:40am).

Christmas Presentation

The choir will present "A Christmas Journey" program before the 10:00pm Christmas Eve Mass (presentation at 9:30pm). "A Christmas Journey" will portray in words and songs the thoughts, hopes, and fears of the beings involved with the Journey to Bethlehem.

Extra Holiday Nuts

The St. Vincent de Paul Society has extra bags of nuts for sale. Here is your chance to purchase an extra supply. They will be sold on a first-come/first-served basis.

Pecan Halves	9 Bags	\$12 Each
Pecan Pieces	13 Bags	\$11 Each
Walnuts	9 Bags	\$ 8 Each

Please call Patti Webers at 314.496.8836.

Feasts of Mary, Mother of God and Epiphany

Feast of Mary, Mother of God (January 1) Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

Feast of the Epiphany (January 8) Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

Bulletin

Due to the upcoming Holy Days and holidays, the bulletin needs to go to the publisher earlier than normal. Therefore, for the next few weeks, please submit any bulletin items as early as possible.

Winter Outreach - A Ministry of Mercy

As winter approaches, our homeless "brethren" will spend cold days and nights on the streets of St. Louis. To give them comfort, we invite you to help provide meals to an overnight shelter during the coldest months.

JANUARY 14, 2023

FEBRUARY 11, 2023

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 baked, frozen, wrapped, and labeled. Items may be store bought. Food is to be dropped off at Our Lady of Sorrows parking lot at 1:00pm on each of the Saturdays listed above. If needed, arrangements can be made to pick up your food 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.

School News

Kindergarten News: Mrs. Magee

We're beginning 10 frames in math and using them for learning combinations 1-10 and will soon be using them with numbers 11-20. We are preparing for guided reading groups, which will start in January, with several weekly literacy centers, including sight word bingo as well as beginning sound match games.

First Grade News: Mrs. Klein

First Grade has been busy learning about persuasive writing. We wrote letters to Mrs. Hayes, persuading her to let us hide kindness rocks around the school (she said yes!) and persuading people to eat other foods besides turkey on Thanksgiving.

Third Grade News: Ms. Polson

Third Grade learned about Golden Lanceheads on an island called Snake Island near Brazil. We also really enjoy Mystery Doug's Science Lesson. In Science we are learning about how things move and new vocabulary words: motion, speed, position, gravity, force, weight, and friction, etc. We are anxious to do our Speed Ramp Experiment using our Hot Wheel cars. In math we are studying 2x 4x 8x tables.

Art News: Miss Decker

There were many fall art projects going around! Early Childhood Students got to make fall trees, hand-print turkeys, and also to learn about Pablo Picasso. Upper Class Students got to complete a watercolor leaf project and are now preparing for their future art test.

Mr. Leonard Kraudel: Science/STREAM (4-5-6-7-8)

4th Grade is learning about different kinds of WAVES and their parts.

5th Grade just learned about the tallest skyscrapers in the world.

6-7-8 Grades are reviewing kinetic and potential energy and the transformation of different energies from one to the other.

Our 8th graders became "mini Vinnies" for a day and joined the Vincentian Community Outreach by packing up meals for seniors, creating hygiene kits, stocking the food pantry shelves, and sorting food for the

Christmas program at St. Vincent de Paul Church. Great job!



Please join us for our annual

Black and Gold Auction



and stay for live entertainment
to celebrate St. Raphael!

Saturday, February 11, 2023

Doors open at 6:00 pm

Table of 10-\$750

Individual ticket-\$75

**Ticket price increases to \$100 per ticket,
\$1000 per table after January 21, 2023**

To purchase your ticket or table,
please visit our website:

<https://blackandgold23.givesmart.com>



Saint Raphael the Archangel

Black & Gold Dinner Auction

***All donations must
be received by
January 31, 2023***

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.

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For online giving or to purchase tickets, visit the
Auction website at
<https://blackandgold23.givesmart.com>

QUESTIONS?

Contact the Auction committee at auction.st.raaphael@gmail.com.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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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 _____

School of St. Raphael the Archangel • 6000 Jamieson Avenue • St. Louis, MO 63109

auction@straphaelarchangel.org

Thank you for your support!

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS



We extend a very special welcome to our friends and visitors who have come to pray with us during the Christmas Holidays. Whether you are just curious or are searching for a place to worship, we are happy to have you here. We trust that our worship will be encouraging to all and hope that you find a warm, welcoming community here at St. Raphael the Archangel Parish. Please call us at the parish office, 314.352.8100, for more information.

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.



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**

☐ **Please Contact Me**

☐ **New E-mail/Address/Phone Number**

☐ **Please Do Not Publish Phone #**