



# St. Raphael and St. Rose Catholic Community

www.straphaelandstrose.com

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

December 26, 2021

## Parish Staff

**Pastor:** Fr. James Bissonette— 729-7537  
raphaelchurch@yahoo.com

**Deacon:** Thomas Kubat — 624-5280  
kubyone@att.net

**Deacon:** Carl Provost — 624-4400  
deaconprovost@gmail.com

**Deacon:** Paul Sever — 729-7767  
psever1542@gmail.com

**St. Raphael Director of Religious Education:**  
Kathy Ellingson — (218) 260-6043  
straphaelyouthprek.5@gmail.com

**St. Rose Director of Religious Education:**  
Suzanne Lott — (218) 349-3498  
Suzanne.Lott@duluthcatholic.org

**St. Raphael & St. Rose Secretary:**  
Marci Golen — 729-7537 / 624-0007  
marci.golen@duluthcatholic.org

**St. Raphael & St. Rose Bookkeeper:**  
Suzanne Lott — 729-7537 / 624-0007  
Suzanne.Lott@duluthcatholic.org

**St. Raphael Music Director:**  
Annette Merritt— 729-7537  
annette.merritt@duluthcatholic.org

**St. Rose Music Director:**  
Maureen Breemeersch— 624-0007

## Mass Schedule - Dec. 27-Jan. 2

Monday	No Daily Mass	
Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	St. Raphael
Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	St. Raphael
Thursday	8:00 a.m.	St. Rose
Friday	8:00 a.m.	St. Rose
Saturday	8:00 a.m.	St. Rose
Saturday	5:00 p.m.	St. Raphael
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	St. Rose
Sunday	10:30 a.m.	St. Raphael

## Confession

Saturday	4:00 - 4:30 p.m.	St. Raphael
Sunday	7:30 - 7:50 a.m.	St. Rose

## Eucharistic Adoration

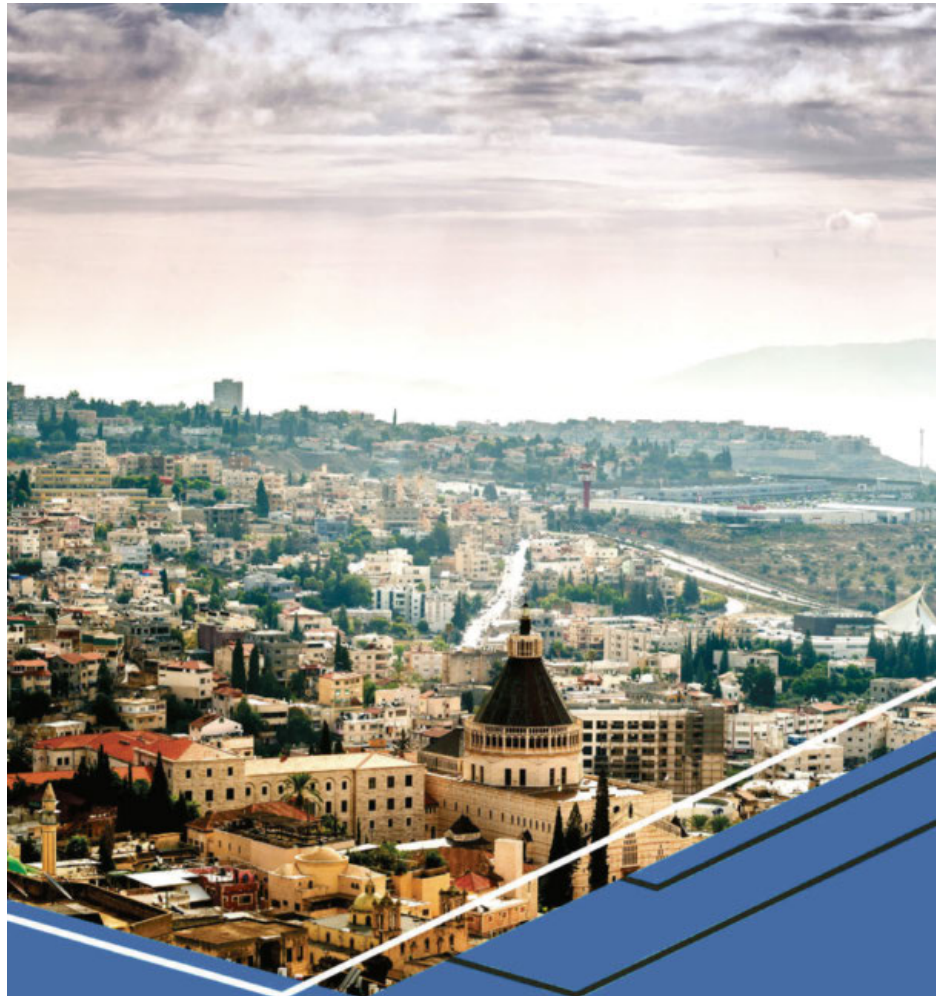
~Holy Hour—Wednesdays after the 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Raphael  
~Adoration—Fridays at St. Rose, 8:30 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. on Saturday

## St. Raphael Catholic Church

5779 Seville Rd, Duluth, MN 55811  
Office Phone (218) 729-7537  
Fax (218) 729-8122  
Rectory Phone (218) 729-5546  
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.—12 Noon,  
Monday—Friday

## St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church

Location: 2 Sixth Ave, Proctor, MN  
Mailing address: 5779 Seville Rd  
Duluth, MN 55811  
Phone (218) 624-0007, Fax (218) 624-1462



## THE HOLY FAMILY

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man.

-Lk 2:51-52

# Collection Report

## St. Raphael

Sorry, due to early bulletin deadlines, the collection results for December 19 will be published in the next bulletin.

### St. Rose - December 12, 2021

Adult Envelopes.....	\$2,676.00
Adult Electronic Giving.....	\$383.60
Plate.....	<u>\$242.00</u>
Total	\$3,301.60
Christmas Flowers.....	\$45.00
Retired Religious.....	\$560.00
Retired Religious Electronic.....	\$9.62
World Mission Electronic.....	\$9.59
UCA Envelopes.....	\$405.00

Sorry, due to early bulletin deadlines, the collection results for December 19 will be published in the next bulletin.

### United Catholic Appeal

#### ST. RAPHAEL

Collected for UCA 2022.....\$5,531.94

#### ST. ROSE

Collected for UCA 2022.....\$1,544.00

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E-giving links can be found on the parish website. The direct links are:

**St. Raphael:** [engage.suran.com/straphael/s/give/new-gift](https://engage.suran.com/straphael/s/give/new-gift)

**St. Rose:** [engage.suran.com/strose/s/give/new-gift](https://engage.suran.com/strose/s/give/new-gift)

## Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

We close out the Christmas octave—the eight days following the birth of Christ—with a day honoring Mary as the Holy Mother of God. There will be Mass at 8:00 a.m. at St. Rose, even though it is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year.



**Saturday, January 1, 2022 8:00 a.m. St. Rose**

*“At the beginning of a new year, the Church invites us to contemplate Mary’s divine maternity as an icon of peace.” - Pope Francis, January 1, 2016*

*“Mary’s motherhood of God was proclaimed as dogma — unquestionably true — by the Church at the Council of Ephesus in 431 CE. She is called Mother of God because she gave birth to Jesus, who is in the Trinity along with the Father and the Holy Spirit.” - [udayton.edu/news/articles/2017/11/things\\_to\\_know\\_about\\_mary\\_mother\\_of\\_jesus.php](http://udayton.edu/news/articles/2017/11/things_to_know_about_mary_mother_of_jesus.php)*

## PARISH NEWS & EVENTS



**PLEASE NOTE:** There will be **no 5 p.m. Mass** at St. Raphael on Saturday, December 25th.



**THANK YOU** to Millicent O’Connell for once again donating trees to St. Raphael to decorate the entryway outside! And **THANK YOU** to all who decorated St. Raphael for Christmas! It looks beautiful!



**LENTEN BIBLE STUDY:** St. Rose, with Deacon Carl Provost leading, will be offering a Bible Study at St. Rose during Lent. Folks from St. Raphael are welcome also. We will begin Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. for six weeks. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin boards or you can call our parish office at 218-729-7537 so a participant book can be ordered for you.



## GOSPEL MEDITATION

**December 25, 2021 - The Nativity of the Lord**

“He so loved us that for our sake He was made man in time, through Whom all times were made; was in the world less in years than His servants, though older than the world itself in His eternity; was made man, Who made man; was created of a mother, whom He created; was carried by hands which He formed; nursed at the breasts which He had filled; cried in the manger in wordless infancy, He the Word without Whom all human eloquence is mute (St. Augustine, Sermon 188).” The miracle of what happens at Christmas is truly an awesome mystery. Revealed in the silent ordinariness of life is God’s intimate love for humanity and all that he made. The Word, existing for all time, comes and dwells among us. God kisses us. We can seek and soar with playful delight as a joy never known before fills our heart.

Joy is best expressed through dance. There is just something truly wonderful about the self-abandon a beautiful melodic

dance reveals. If we are able to let go and really be free, it celebrates life in a way few other experiences really can. With the birth of Jesus Christ, God takes the Divine Dance to a deeper and more tangible level. We can now not only see what we believe but believe what we see! This most perfect dance is a call to beauty, innocence, truth, purpose, hope, faith, and love. Today we know, beyond doubt, that we are a necessary part of God’s beautifully choreographed masterpiece of life and not just a random happening without real intent or purpose. We are loved, treasured, and blessed.

Accepting the truth of God’s birth in time we also accept an invitation to dance with God. We can let go of what tethers us to anxious concerns and superficial securities. Throw caution to the wind and go with God. We have been blessed with talents, gifts, and life eternal. Follow the rhythm of the dance with joy and listen to what the Word who became flesh tells us about what the next steps can be. Today, heaven remains the same, but earth has been profoundly changed.

## ST. RAPHAEL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



### St Raphael Religious Education Classes

**PreK-5th Grade:** Sundays, 9:15-10:15 a.m., January 9, 23, 30 **No Class** on December 26, January 2, 16

**6th-10th Grade:** Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., January 5, 12, 19, 26 **No Class** on December 29

**11th Grade:** Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., January 5, 12, 19, 26 **at St. Rose** **No Class** on December 29

If you have any questions, please call or e-mail Kathy at 218-260-6043 or straphaelyouthprek.5@gmail.com

## YOUTH

**2022 MISSION TRIP/STEUBENVILLE:** Registration is open now! We invite those who will have completed grades 9—12 by June 2022 to join us Tues., July 12—Sun., July 17, 2022. Go to [dioceseduluth.org/Mission-Trips](http://dioceseduluth.org/Mission-Trips) for more information and to register.

## STELLA MARIS ACADEMY

### MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM STELLA MARIS ACADEMY!

From all of us at SMA, we sincerely wish you the joy and peace of Christ this season. Thank you for all you do to support Catholic education in Duluth, our families, staff, and our students. To learn more about how you can support SMA with your end-of-year giving, please visit [www.stellamaris.academy/give](http://www.stellamaris.academy/give)



**HIGH SCHOOL SNEAK PEEK:** Due to inclement weather, the SMA high school sneak peek has been rescheduled for Friday, January 7, 2022 from 12:00 noon—6:00 p.m. Come see the campus and learn more about what the high school will have to offer! There will be an outdoor blessing will be at 6:00 p.m. The new high school is located at 4321 Allendale Ave in the Woodland area of Duluth, behind the St. John's Campus of Stella Maris Academy.

## LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

It was the best of times and it was the worst of times. Our families can bring out the best and the worst in us. This is true of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our church, our society, and the like. In all of our family experiences, what stands out as our most challenging memory? Everything human can be found on the pages of family life. But there is also a Divine story to be discovered as well. When life gets difficult and perplexing, today's Feast of the Holy Family stands to remind us that it is not just by human effort that we tread treacherous waters. We have to remember and learn from the Divine effort too. We need this perspective if our love lessons are

## ST. ROSE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



### St. Rose Religious Education Classes

**Wednesdays,** 6:30 p.m., January 5, 12, 19, 26  
**No Class** on December 29

**11th Grade:** (CONFIRMATION) - Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. January 5, 12, 19, 26 **at St. Rose.** **No Class** on December 29

If you have any questions, please call or e-mail Suzanne at 218-349-3498 or [Suzanne.Lott@duluthcatholic.org](mailto:Suzanne.Lott@duluthcatholic.org)

## AROUND THE DIOCESE

**RESTORED RETREAT:** Update - The Restored Retreat is full but you can still sign up for free to be on the waiting list. The link to register and more info can be found at [dioceseduluth.org/Restored](http://dioceseduluth.org/Restored)

**THEOLOGY UNCAPPED** will be Thursday, January 27, 2022 at St. Benedict Catholic Church in Duluth. The cost is \$25. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., meal served at 6:00 p.m., program begins at 6:30 p.m. Details and registration can be found at [theologyuncapped.org](http://theologyuncapped.org)

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

- Music Ministry Director – St. Michael's Church in Duluth is looking for a part-time music ministry director. It includes planning music for all liturgical celebrations in the parish, funerals, weddings, and scheduling cantors for all Masses. Preference to play both piano and organ. If interested, contact Denise at [denise.connolly@duluthcatholic.org](mailto:denise.connolly@duluthcatholic.org) or 525-1902.
- Nurse for Priests - The Nurse for Priests promotes the healing ministry among the Presbyterate of the Diocese of Duluth, especially senior priests. This position provides leadership in identifying and responding to the health-related needs of the priests. If you are interested in this part-time role (20 hours per week), send an email to Mary Rasch at [mary.rasch@duluthcatholic.org](mailto:mary.rasch@duluthcatholic.org) for a job description and application.

going to be learned completely and well. We are all works in progress and we all come from homes that are broken by imperfection. In whatever life brings us and in whatever family we find ourselves, may the promptings we feel toward faith and hope lead us to greater love.



## Readings for the week of December 26, 2021

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or

1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40

Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18

Saturday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

## Observances for the week of December 26, 2021

Sunday: The Holy Family

Monday: St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

Tuesday: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

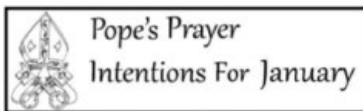
Wednesday: St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr

Thursday:

Friday: St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve

Saturday: New Year's Day; Mary, The Holy Mother of God; World Day of Peace

Next Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord; Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church



**For true human fraternity:** We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.



### Baptisms

Baptism preparation class must be scheduled with the priest or deacon prior to Baptism. Contact the parish office at least 1 month in advance.

### Weddings

Contact the pastor at least 9 months prior to proposed date of wedding. Pre-marriage instruction is required.

*Welcome!*

### New Parishioners

Welcome! Please register by calling St. Raphael parish office (218) 729-7537, filling out a form online through the website ([straphaelandstrose.com](http://straphaelandstrose.com)) or taking a registration form off the bulletin board at either church. Forms can be returned in the collection basket or to the parish office.





## Mass Intentions - Dec. 28-Jan. 2

|                     |                           |             |
|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| Tuesday 8:00 a.m.   | ✠ Barb Johnson            | St. Raphael |
| Wednesday 8:00 a.m. | ✠ Clarence Black          | St. Raphael |
| Thursday 8:00 a.m.  | ✠ Jean French             | St. Rose    |
| Friday 8:00 a.m.    | Special Intention         | St. Rose    |
| Saturday 8:00 a.m.  | ✠ Charlene Carlson        | St. Rose    |
| Saturday 5:00 p.m.  | ✠ Sylvester Yagoda        | St. Raphael |
| Sunday 8:00 a.m.    | Pro Populo                | St. Rose    |
| Sun. 10:30 a.m.     | ✠ Patricia Slocum-Largent | St. Raphael |

## Liturgical Minister Schedule

### Saturday, January 1, 5:00 p.m. - St. Raphael

Lector - Gail Kehoe

Ushers - Dave Antus, Gene Collard

Altar Server - Payton Kilgore

### Sunday, January 2, 8:00 a.m. - St. Rose

Lector - Michelle Maki

Usher - Mickey Strongitharm

Altar Server - Volunteer

### Sunday, January 2, 10:30 a.m. - St. Raphael

Lector - Cathy Rackliffe

Ushers - Patty Nagle, Mark Socha

Altar Server - Volunteer

## Why Do We Do That?

**Question:** Why do we give gifts at Christmas?

**Answer:** Great events in and of themselves are not tangible. They occur in life but leave no mark behind. So we mark the event with monuments, holidays, gold watches or plaques, making a meaningful event tangible and memorable.

Gifts at Christmas do the same thing. They mark the occasion of the birth of Jesus, communicating a bit of the joy of the day by allowing us to be both giver and receiver. Gift-giving sets aside the day as special and different. The special foods, customs, decorations, and gifts all help focus our attention on the importance and meaning of the day and at the same time allow us to share personally in its joy and happiness.

In giving gifts, though, we can share in the meaning of Christmas in a significant way. We imitate God in sharing with others. We give a bit of ourselves to others in the gifts we give, just as God gives us the gift of his Son.



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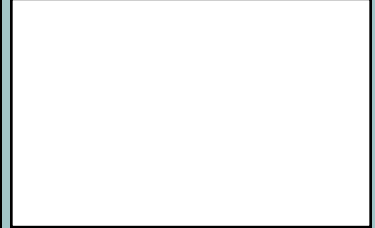
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