CHURCH OF ST. RAPHAEL

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - DECEMBER 12, 2021

MISSION STATEMENT

Faithful to the Teachings of the Roman Catholic Church, St. Raphael Parish and School promotes the Universal Call to Holiness for all the People of God.

WORSHIP

Weekday Masses
Monday - Saturday: 8:00 am

First Friday: 7:00 pm
Extraordinary Form Latin

Weekend Masses
Saturday: 5:30 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am, 10:30 am

CONTACT

Fr. Nick Hagen, Parochial Administrator x 205
frhagen@straphaelcrystal.org

Parish Email: info@straphaelcrystal.org
Parish Phone: 763-537-8401

Parish Office Hours
Monday-Thursday: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
Friday: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation
Weekdays: 7:20 - 7:50 am
Saturday: 7:20 - 7:50 am,
8:30 - 9:30 am and 3:45 - 5:15 pm

Marriage
Please contact Fr. Nick Hagen.

Baptism
Please contact the Parish Office.

PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR'S LETTER

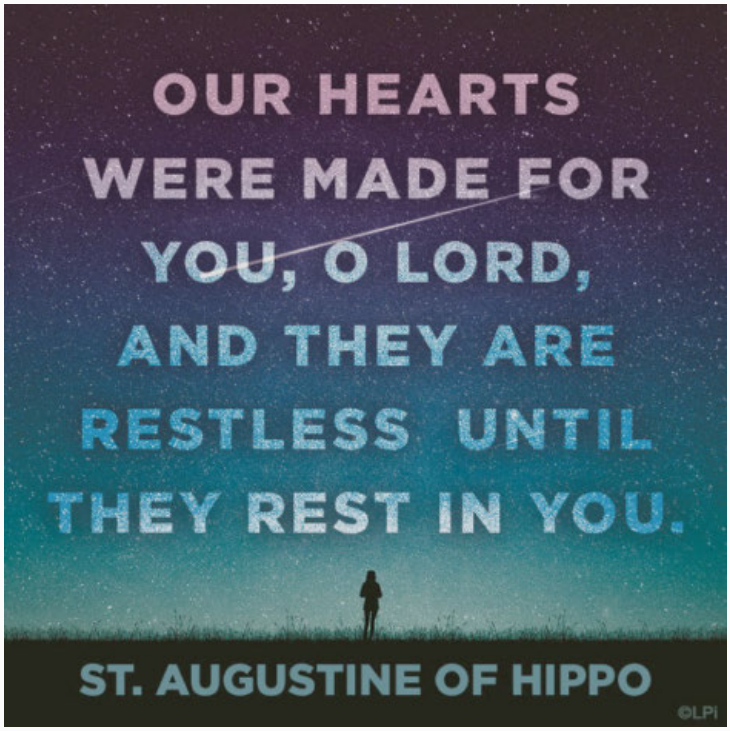
Brothers and Sisters,

As cliché as it sounds, we are entering the season of **giving** and the season of **joy.** While these taglines are nothing new if you watch the Hallmark channel, on Gaudete Sunday God invites us to experience both gift and joy in a wholly new way.

Even on our own, we human beings have known, deep down, that *altruism* carries with it a special, secret reward…a reward we couldn't have tasted if we remain caught in the rat-race of self-serving. Yet even on this human level, isn't it funny how often we settle back into equating joy with "getting my own personal life in order" and having things "just so," especially around Christmastime. To sacrifice those expectations and desires and **especially time** for an infinitely valuable human being, though…that carries a joy known only to those who try it. I am so inspired when I see the full Giving Tree in our Gathering Space, and witness the personal time sacrifices of our volunteers, staff, school teachers, and parish families. Yet Gaudete Sunday isn't just about joy in altruism. It carries a joy even deeper.

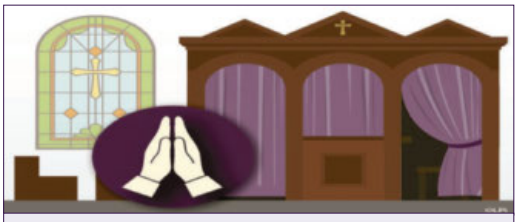
As our Director of Worship and organist Paul reminds me at the bottom of his emails, St. Augustine prayed at the beginning of his Confessions: "You inspire us, O Lord, to delight in praising You; for You have made us for Yourself, and our heart is restless until it rests in You." The joy of Gaudete Sunday is not the altruistic joy of getting to love others for their own sake, as noble as that is. Christmas joy is in the Incarnation of the Love that first loved us, for Whom we were created! God has shared His own heart with us, letting us take care of Him in the form of a baby. This is something altruism could never dare to do…to care for my own Maker?!? To sing the praises of a Baby-God in the form of countless Christmas Carols? God has made it possible for us to love his infinite majesty on human terms, through human expressions, in ways we actually *know how to do*. This is the miracle of rejoicing we are invited to taste this third Sunday of Advent. Lose our self-concern that seeks to gauge my personal happiness, and instead embrace the real, human daily opportunities I have to give gifts to my infinite God.

In the self-forgetting Joy of our soon-to-come Savior,
-Fr. Nick Hagen



RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS
December 12th

Help aging religious. Elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others— educating the young, comforting the sick, and ministering to the less fortunate. Today, many are frail and need assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps furnish medications, nursing care, and more.
Please place your Retirement Fund for Religious envelopes in the collection basket this weekend! (Envelopes are available on the tables at each church entrance.) Please be generous.



ADDITIONAL ADVENT CONFESSION OPPORTUNITY
Friday, December 17th
5:00 pm - 9:00 pm

PARISH DIRECTORY
Parish Office: 763-537-8401

PRIESTS
Parochial Administrator
Fr. Nick Hagen (x205)

PARISH ADMINISTRATION
Parish Business Administrator
Ryan Heim (x202)
rheim@straphaelcrystal.org

Director of Operations
Rick Jensen (x206)

Part-Time Administrative Assistant
Sue Kubovec (x201)

Administrative Assistant/ Bulletin Editor
Marie Nachtsheim (x222)

Social Needs Coordinator
Bunny Arseneau (x214)

Crisis Pregnancy Hotline (x500)

PARISH TRUSTEES
Tony Pistilli
Jo Tolck

FAITH FORMATION
Director of Confirmation, RCIA and Youth Ministry
Joseph Turner (x211)

Family Discipleship Director
Amanda Abel (x211)

WORSHIP
Prayer Line (x528)
Bulletin Prayers for the Sick (x523)

Adoration Chapel Coordinators
Sharon Hedman 763-315-0202
Char Vecellio 651-336-6630

SCHOOL
School Office: 763-504-9450
Mike McGinty,
School Principal (x352)

PASTORAL COUNCIL
Mario Chavez, Greg Feitl, Sharon Hedman, John Jestus, Roselyn Lawrence, Jacob Nelson, Maricela Rodriguez Ocampo, and Rose Pistilli

Pastoral Council Meetings
If you would like a particular item on the next Parish Council agenda please contact Fr. Hagen

FINANCE COUNCIL
Steve Cheney, Nancy Holovnia, Steve Pellegrene, and Mark Schoenfelder

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE
NOVEMBER 21, 2021

Contributions	$17,023.90
Budget	$16,623.00
Building Fund	$928.00
Budget	$1,419.00
Mr. J. Scholarship Fund	$50.00

Thank you for your generosity!

PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, December 12
- 8:00 AM — Youth Ministry Caramel Sale, East Gather Space
- 12:00 PM — Baptism Prep, Church
- 1:30 PM — Carmelites, Parish Campus

Monday, December 13
- 7:00 PM — Rosary for our Nation Holy Spirit Chapel
- 7:00 PM — Schola Chant Practice, Church

Tuesday, December 14
- 10:00 AM — Navarre Bible Study, Fr. Fenelon Room
- 7:00 PM — RCIA, Fr. Fenelon Room
- 7:00 PM — Rosary for our Nation Holy Spirit Chapel

Wednesday, December 15
- 9:00 AM — Cana Family Institute, Fr. Fenelon Room
- 9:30 AM — Catholic Book Club, St. Therese Room
- 10:00 AM — Grief Support Group, Marian Hall
- 6:00 PM — Core Team Up With ROC

Wednesday, December 15 (continued)
- 7:00 PM — Rosary for our Nation Holy Spirit Chapel
- 7:00 PM — ROC - Adoration and Confession, Parish Campus
- 7:00 PM — Adult Choir Practice, Choir Room

Thursday, December 16
- 9:30 AM — Fatima Prayer Cell, Fr. Fenelon Room
- 6:30 PM — ACCL/Respect Life Mtg. St. Therese Room
- 7:00 PM — Rosary for our Nation Holy Spirit Chapel
- 7:00 PM — St. Raphael Prayer Group, Marian Hall

Friday, December 17
- 6:00 PM — Friday Open Youth Room, Youth Room, JPII
- 6:15 PM — St. Eligius Circle, Marian Hall
- 7:00 PM — Rosary for our Nation Holy Spirit Chapel

Saturday, December 18
- 5:00 PM — Youth Ministry Caramel Sale, East Gather Space

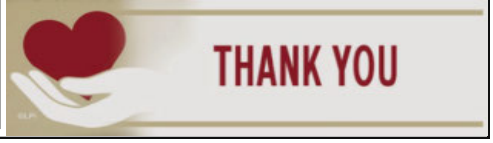
Sunday, December 19
- 8:00 AM — Youth Ministry Caramel Sale, East Gather Space
- 12:00 PM — Baptisms, Church

2021 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

YEAR-END CONTRIBUTIONS REMINDER:

All contributions must be received at the parish on or before December 31, 2021 to be included on your 2021 contribution statement.

If a contribution is received on or after January 1, 2022 it will be included on your 2022 year-end statement even if the check is dated prior to January 1, 2022. Thank you for your generosity!



"Walk cheerfully and with a sincere and open heart as much as you can, and when you cannot always maintain this holy joy, at least do not lose heart or your trust in God."

(Quote from DAY by DAY Through the Month with Padre Pio - by the Capuchin Franciscan Friars.)

Used with permission—Gina Pizzonia - Capuchin Franciscan Friars, Province of St. Augustine)

CHRISTMAS HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION MASS SCHEDULE

Friday, December 24 - Christmas Eve 4:00 pm and 10:00 pm
Saturday, December 25 - Christmas Day 8:30 am and 10:30 am

SUNDAY OBLIGATION MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 25: 5:30 pm
Sunday, December 26: 8:30 am & 10:30 am

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe December 12

Many, many thanks to parishioner, Denise Dooley, who very kindly donated her time and TALENT to repair the Our Lady of Guadalupe statue which suffered some vandalism during the summer.

The repaired and repainted statue is currently housed indoors in the upper East Gathering Space.

We are so grateful Denise Thank you!

May God reward you, and may our Blessed Mother, Our Lady of Guadalupe, wrap you in her mantle of protection!

PRAYER CHAIN REQUEST MINISTRY

Are you looking for a way to volunteer from your home?

Our current Prayer Chain Request Coordinator is looking to hand over this coordinator position to another person. Many people are looking for prayers for themselves and for others.

If you are interested in volunteering in this important ministry and learning more about the coordinator role, please contact Judy Aydt at 763-536-0553.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	**December 13**
8:00 AM	Special Intention
Tuesday	**December 14**
8:00 AM	Spencer Nelson and + Delores Nelson
Wednesday	**December 15**
8:00 AM	Brian and Max Kubovec
Thursday	**December 16**
8:00 AM	+ Carrie Ann Cota
Friday	**December 17**
8:00 AM	+ Joseph Caliendo and + Frank Caliendo
Saturday	**December 18**
8:00 AM	+ Mary Boisvert and Marge Nelson
5:30 PM	St. Raphael Parishioners
Sunday	**December 19**
8:30 AM	+ Suz Miéssen
10:30 AM	+ Evelyn Berg

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the week of December 12, 2021

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Is12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [6]/ Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 [7a]/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk 7:18b-23

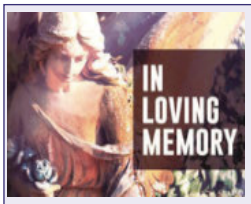
Thursday: Is 54:1-10/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a, and 13b [2a]/Lk 7:24-30

Friday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17

Saturday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25

Next Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

LPi



REST IN PEACE

Pasquale Croce

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration Contacts

Sharon Hedman 763-315-0202 / Char Vecellio 651-336-6630

REMINDER: The Adoration Chapel door is locked at all times. Adorers must have the code to access the chapel. Adorers should NOT share the code with anyone. Also, please do not let people in who do not have the code. They should come in through the parish office instead. Thank you.

ADORATION CHAPEL HOURS

(The Blessed Sacrament is exposed during the hours listed below. You are also welcome to visit the Adoration Chapel all other hours when the Blessed Sacrament is reposed in the Tabernacle.)

Sunday:

7:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Monday - Saturday:

5:00 AM - 11:00 PM

URGENT NEED FOR COMMITTED ADORERS

Monday: 9:00 am; 10:00 am
Tuesday: 11:00 am
Thursday: 9:00 am
Friday: 8:00 pm
Saturday: 8:00 am; 4:00 pm
Sunday: 10:00 pm

Jesus is waiting for you. Sign up for an hour today!

If you are interested in committing to a specific hour(s), please sign up online at straphael.weadorehim.com If unable to sign up online, or to get on a substitute list, please contact Char Vecellio at 651-336-6630

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Gladys Benton
Judy Dancisak
Patricia Dancisak
Robert Haekenkamp
Keith K.
Audrey Kauffmann
David McMillen
Lillian Murphy
Renee Page
Mary Lou Pfeifer
Greg Reinert
John Smedsrud
Nadine Svetc
Richard VanHeel
Justin Zimitsch

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

We invite you to remember the poor by taking a Star from one of the trees located in the East Gathering Space or the West Alcove and purchasing the gift written on the Star.

After purchasing the gift, **please place the NEW, unwrapped gift under one of the trees (with the Star attached) by Sunday, December 12th.**

Your donations go to local charities and to parishioners in need. Thank you!

ADOPT–A–FAMILY PROGRAM

Imagine waking up Christmas morning with no presents under the tree…or the smell of a special meal in the oven. Imagine watching all the other children enjoying their new clothes and toys and you have nothing…not even the bare necessities like a new pair of mittens, a hat, a scarf, a sweater, a shirt, or boots to help keep you warm and dry.

Families who face temporary financial set backs due to medical bills, job loss (down sizing), the economy, repairs to their car, etc. have an impossible task in trying to provide a Christmas with all the trimmings for their children.

The Adopt-A-Family program helps such families in various ways that includes gifts, or help in providing a Christmas dinner, through donations or gift certificates.

If anyone would like to adopt a family or know of anyone in need, please contact Bunny Arseneau at 763-537-8401 x 214 and I will be glad to offer a further explanation of our program.

~ Bunny Arseneau

St. Raphael's parish has been recycling aluminum cans for decades. All proceeds go to area Pro-Life organizations. So, as you gather together for the Christmas holiday and other events in December, we ask you to save aluminum cans and put them in the bins inside the enclosure located by the back door of Marian Hall (near the tuck under garage - east side of church).

Please continue to collect aluminum cans all year long. You can drop the cans off any time you come to the church or school.

Please - aluminum only; no plastic or garbage. Thank you!!

MOST BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, PRAY FOR US!

WORLD APOSTOLATE OF FATIMA PRAYER GROUP

To learn and live the Fatima message of Gospel living through prayer and formation, join St. Raphael's World Apostolate of Fatima prayer group.

We meet the 3rd Thursday of every month at 9:30 am. For more information, call the Parish Office.

Our next meeting is Thursday, December 16th in the Fr. Fenelon Room.

"I promise salvation to those who embrace devotion to my Immaculate Heart, and these souls will be loved by God like flowers placed by me to adorn His throne."

~Our Lady of Fatima, June 13, 1917

ROAD TO BETHLEHEM BOUTIQUE

The Rosary Society gives thanks to:

- All who worked at the event.
- All who donated items for the event.
- All who attended the event.

All of you made this event a great success and we are so grateful!

Grieving?

Our grief support group meets on the third Wednesday of the month.
Our next meeting is on Wednesday, December 15th at 10:00 am in Marian Hall.
All are welcome!

YOUTH MINISTRY

CONTACT

Questions? Please contact Joseph Turner
at 763-537-8401 (x 211) or jturner@straphaelcrystal.org

Register for any youth events on the St. Raphael youth website: www.straphaelyouth.com

OPEN YOUTH ROOM

MIDDLE SCHOOL OPEN YOUTH ROOM

MOST TUESDAYS * 2:20-5:00 PM
All 6th-8th Graders are Invited!

OPEN YOUTH ROOM IS A TIME FOR FELLOWSHIP, FUN & GAMES!

HIGH SCHOOL OPEN YOUTH ROOM

MOST WEDNESDAYS * 4:30-6:30 PM
All 9th-12th Graders are Invited!

OPEN YOUTH ROOM IS A TIME FOR FELLOWSHIP, FUN & GAMES!

14th Annual

Aunt Dori's Homemade Caramel Sale

Saint Raphael Youth Ministry Fundraiser
Proceeds will assist our youth in participating in our youth ministry events!

ONE 1/2 Pound Bag for $7.00

OR

THREE Bags for $20.00

Sold before and after all Masses in the East Gathering Space (and during "Road to Bethlehem") beginning Saturday, November 27th, until sold out.

Supply is limited so make your purchase soon!

ST. RAPHAEL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRIST-MAS

Keep Christ in Christ-mas this year. St. Raphael's Catholic School and the Knights of Columbus will be participating in a coloring poster contest this Advent Season.

If you would like to participate please call Mr. Johnson at our parish school 763-504-9450 ext. 321 or email him at david.johnson@srsmn.org for more information.

ADVENT AT ST. RAPHAEL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

To celebrate the beginning of the Advent season, the entire primary wing gathered together on Monday, November 29th. Our pre-school led the group in a prayer as the first candle representing hope was created. Each grade will take a week leading the group in prayer and creating the candles for the Advent wreath.

In First Grade, we are creating Advent wreaths in Art class. Every Monday we will add another candle light to the wreath and learn a special prayer to prepare for the coming of Jesus our Savior.

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Bl. Solanus Casey
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