Saint Raphael Parish
512 High Street, West Medford, Massachusetts 02155

Pastoral Staff
Rev. Paul F. Coughlin, Pastor
Deacon Mark E. Rumley
Dr. Ginny McCabe, Ed.D., Pastoral Minister
and Director of Religious Education
Mrs. Margo Malone, Asst. Director of Religious Education

Parish Staff
Mrs. Michelle Paone, Parish Secretary
and School Tuition Manager
Mrs. Kerryn Plant,
Administrative Assistant
Mr. Ryan Lynch, Director of Music
Ms. Nicole Panico, Young Adult Choir
Mrs. Alisa Simmons, Business Manager

School Staff
Mark C. Bedrosian, School Principal
Mrs. Jeanmarie Cataldo, School Secretary
Mrs. Gina McCaffrey, Director of Development and Admissions

Visiting Clergy
Fr. Charles Hughes
Fr. Marcel Uwineza, S.J.
Senior Deacon Leo Martin

Mass Schedule

September - June Schedule
Saturday: 4:00 PM
Sunday: 7:30, 9:15, 11:30 AM & 5:00 PM
Daily: Wednesday-Saturday Mornings: 8:00 AM

Holy Days: As announced

Parish Offices: ...........................................(781) 488-5444
Parish FAX: ..............................................(781) 483-3375
School: ..................................................(781) 483-3373
School FAX: .............................................(781) 483-3097
Religious Education Office: ......................(781) 483-1139
Business/Tuition Office: .............................(781) 488-5444
Development Office: ................................(781) 483-3554

Internet: ........................................www.saintraphaelparish.org

Confessions: Saturday: 3:00-3:45 PM or by request
Baptisms: One Sunday a month.
Please contact the Parish Office.

Weddings: By personal appointment with priest/deacon
six months in advance of date sought. Marriage
Preparation Course is required.

Mission Statement
"Saint Raphael is a Catholic community committed, with God's
grace, to living gospel values and sharing these with all people.
As a Eucharistic people united in faith and worship, we affirm
the gifts of the Spirit among us and celebrate the uniqueness of
each of our members. Supporting one another in love, we
strive to respect and use these diverse gifts in joyful service

Welcome to New Parishioners
Please stop by and visit us at our
Parish Center located at:
514 High Street
Governor Baker’s announcement that Houses of Worship could open has brought a feeling of relieve and, at the same time, a feeling of caution. We welcome the return of our ability to gather together to worship the Lord in Word and Sacrament but the reality of the virus remains with us.

To take the necessary steps to prepare for opening and to remain vigilant against the virus, we intend to open Saint Raphael church for its regularly schedule masses commencing with the 8:00 a.m. mass on Wednesday, May 27, 2020 and continuing thereafter. However, to do so responsibly there will be restrictions. No more than 75 persons will be permitted to attend each service.

The Commonwealth’s guidelines state that churches can accept attendance of 40 percent of the occupancy capacity of the building. St Raphael’s church has an occupancy limit of 700. Under these standards it would seem that we could have up to 280 persons at each mass. However, social distancing requires that worshipers must be 6 feet apart from each other unless they are from the same household. Applying these standards to our church’s worship space, we have determined that our maximum functional occupancy capacity is 75 persons for each service. Therefore no more than 75 persons may attend any mass. Among the Other Changes certain pews will be roped off to keep distance between worshipers.

No one will be admitted into the church any earlier than 20 minutes prior to the commencement of a Mass. All attendees, except those under age 2, should wear a face covering. Parents can decide if children between ages 2 and 5 should wear face coverings. The movement of the assembly to receive Holy Communion will be changed to minimize movement and keep proper distancing. Collection baskets will not be used. Alternative methods utilizing containers that do not have to be touched will be utilized.

The dispensation from the Sunday Mass obligation will continue for the foreseeable future. Cardinal Sean strongly encourages people in vulnerable populations, especially the elderly and those with complicated physical conditions, to continue to watch Mass from their homes. We will continue to stream Sunday Mass on YouTube and on Channels 3 & 47.

Father Paul
Thank you to the many people who have donated to the Saint Vincent de Paul Food Pantry here at St. Raphael’s. It has helped so many during this time of need.

All donations can be dropped off at the Food Pantry: 38 Boston Ave. in the back by the red door. Thank you!

The new St. Raphael Parish Website is up and running!

www.saintraphaelparish.org

Please take a look! We will be regularly updating the site with important information and updates so remember to check in often for the latest news.

Thank you to Ross Miller for all your help getting the Parish set up for this. Your time and expertise during this process was greatly appreciated!

College and High School Graduates....

Congratulations and good wishes follow you ALL. We are so proud of you – your accomplishments! In the midst of the pandemic ... you bring both “light” and hope! For you and your families ... we offer our prayerful support!

Father Paul and the St. Raphael Parish Community

Blessings for the threshold of a New Beginning

“May you experience each day as a sacred gift woven around the heart of wonder.”

“...In out of the way places of the heart, Where your thoughts never think to wander, This beginning has been quietly forming, Waiting until you were ready to emerge.

For a long time it has watched your desire, Feeling the emptiness grow inside you, Noticing how you willed yourself on, Still unable to leave what you had outgrown.

It watched you play with the seduction of safety And the gray promises that sameness whispered, Heard the waves of turmoil rise and relent, Wondered would you always live like this.

Then the delight, when your courage kindled, And out you stepped onto new ground, Your eyes young again with energy and dream, A path of plentitude opening before you.

Though your destination is not clear You can trust the promise of this opening: Unfurl yourself into the grace of beginning That is one with your life’s desire.

Awaken your spirit to adventure Hold nothing back, learn to find ease in risk: Soon you will be home in a new rhythm For your soul senses the world that awaits you.”

John O’Donohue …“To Bless the Space Between Us”
May 31, 2020

Religious Education

News and Notes

straphaelmedford@yahoo.

“Lord Jesus be with us.
In place of anxiety, give us your peace.”

Blessing: Prayer for our “times” ...

“I believe each of us can bless. When a blessing is invoked, it changes the atmosphere. Some of the plentitude flows into our hearts from the invisible neighborhood of loving kindness. In the light and reverence of blessing, a person or situation becomes illuminated in a completely new way. In a dead wall, a new window opens, in dense darkness a path starts to glimmer, and into a broken heart, healing falls like morning dew. It is ironic that so often we continue to live like paupers though our inheritance of spirit is so vast. The quiet eternal that dwells in our souls is silent and subtle; in the activity of blessing it emerges to embrace and nurture us. Let us begin to learn how to bless one another. Whenever you give a blessing, a blessing returns to enfold you.”

John O’Donohue. To Bless the Space Between Us

Confirmation Students: (Current group)

Please remember to return your YELLOW folders with Completed info’ re: Confirmation NAME ….SPONSOR and Letter to the Bishop.

Please leave in the mailbox outside the Parish Center as soon as possible. Attn: Mrs. Malone ..........Thank you!

PROJECT KINDNESS:

Our supply of children’s “homemade cards” is now diminished, so ....to ALL Parish children – please continue to make “special creations” and share some “HOPE-FILLED” messages for our sick and homebound. Please leave in the mailbox attached to the Parish Center ...

attn: Ms. McCabe/Mrs. Malone
Grateful hearts say ... THANKS!!

Volunteers NEEDED:

With the re-opening of our Church and the daily issues related to compliance (both Archdiocesan and City), Father Paul is looking for volunteers to assist with many and varied tasks. If you are able to donate some time during the week or weekend – please contact: Michelle Paone at (781-488-5444) and she will forward your name to him.

Very appreciated!

Ministry Matters

Prayer Group: 2020

This group prays daily for ALL intentions listed in our Book of Prayer. Pray WITH us for our world community!! Parishioners – please send your PRAYER REQUESTS to straphaelmedford@yahoo.com

We will place them in the Book of Prayer for you.

Here is the link to watch the Mass each week:
https://www.youtube.com/c/SaintRaphaelParishMedford

Kindly remember in your prayers the souls of: Sheila Riordan, Sister Anne Clare, Helen Masci, Billy Boyle, Deacon Valentin Rivera & Father David Bonfiglio

To read the parish bulletin online please visit: www.parishesonline.com.
Search: Saint Raphael Parish, Medford, MA. Our most recent bulletin and past bulletins are available to view.
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