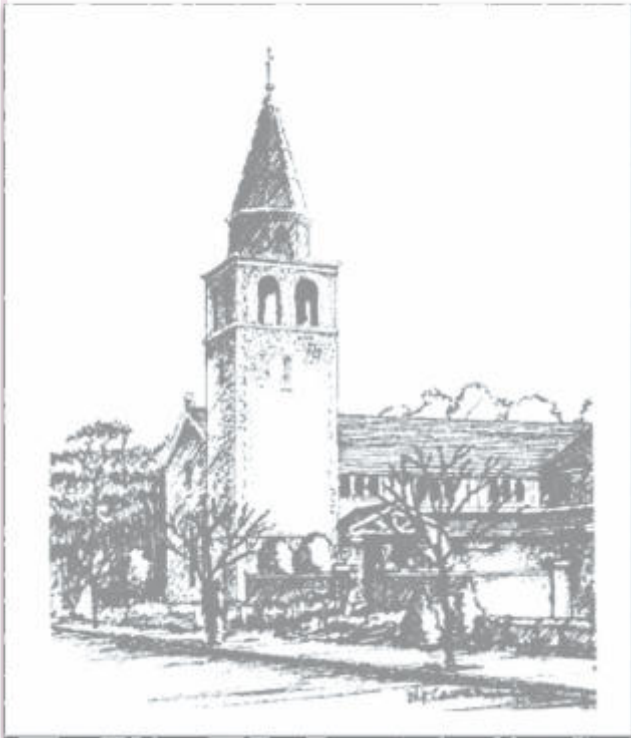


Saint Raphael Parish

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. Kerry Plant,
Administrative Assistant

Mr. Ryan Lynch, Director of Music

Ms. Nicole Panico, Young Adult Choir

Mrs. Alisa Simmons, Business Manager

School Staff

Mrs. Genevieve Sedensky, School Principal

Mrs. Julie Yenowskas, School Secretary

Mrs. Gina McCart, Director of Development and Admissions

Visiting Clergy

Fr. Charles Hughes

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



Saturday, November 28, 2020

4:00 PM

Sunday, November 29, 2020

7:30 AM Kevin Sousa
8th Anniversary

9:15 AM Nella Allen
1st Anniversary

11:30 AM Alan P. Stein
1st Anniversary

5:00 PM Deceased members of the
Laffan Family

Wednesday, December 2, 2020

8:00 AM

Thursday, December 3, 2020

8:00 AM Edward E. Pringle, Jr.
3rd Anniversary

Friday, December 4, 2020

8:00 AM

Saturday, December 5, 2020

8:00 AM

4:00 PM Margaret & Thomas Curtis
Anniversary

Sunday, December 6, 2020

7:30 AM Jean Powers
15th Anniversary &
Robert Lenox
9th Anniversary

9:15 AM Rose Femino
5th Anniversary

11:30 PM Thomas & Lorraine Fallon
Memorial

5:00 PM Patricia McCarthy
10th Anniversary



2020 Giving Tree Update

As promised, here is the information you need to take part in this year's

"HYBRID GIVING TREE"

Why "hybrid"? Because there are several ways to receive or pick up your request tag and then to return your gift card

- Choosing from the socially distanced boards in the Church or in the parish center
- Requesting one (or more) by emailing Ginny McCabe and Margo Malone in the Religious Education Office at straphaelmedford@yahoo.com or Margie Chisholm at mhchisholm@aol.com
- Calling the parish center—781-488-5444

Tags will be available beginning on November 14 and are due back by Sunday, December 6. Please return gift cards in an envelope with the tag securely attached to ensure that all cards are allocated/delivered correctly. They can be returned:

- to the parish center—in person or by mail (514 High Street, Medford, MA 02155)
- in church in the collection boxes
- to the school office through your child's homeroom

Special note: When we discussed how best to conduct the Giving Tree this year, we were buoyed by the awareness that you would accept and handle all of the changes and new requirements with enthusiasm, generosity, and an encouraging sense of common purpose. How wonderful is that? It reveals your true Christmas spirit and inspires gratitude and joy. As always, THANK YOU!



Rest in Peace

Kindly remember in your prayers the souls of:
Father Neil Mullaney & Msgr. Frank O'Sullivan



CHANGES AS CHRISTMAS APPROACHES

The Covid 19 virus has caused everyone to re-think and re-assess every aspect of their social activities. Among these changes are the various ways that have altered our ability to worship together.

Since the re-opening of our beloved church building in May we have steadfastly complied with safe practices such as hand sanitation, social distancing and wearing masks.

In light of the rules limiting personal attendance in the Church itself, we have utilized the Parish Hall to allow parishioners to watch the Mass on a large screen and to have Holy Communion brought to them from one of the Eucharistic Ministers.

Since Christmas is approaching and virus cases continue to rise we feel that now is the best time to describe what Christmas will “look like” at St. Raphael Parish.

As Catholics, our desire to come together to worship and celebrate “Emmanuel” [“God is With Us”] is especially unrelentingly on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

But the Covid-19 virus is unrelenting too and just as there was no “room ... at the inn” for Jesus, Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem [Luke 2:7], the circumstances of this year dictate that there simply will not be sufficient room at the Church to accommodate an overwhelming attendance rush on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Remember, the dispensation granted by Cardinal Seán from the Sunday Mass obligation remains in effect. Please keep this in mind especially if you are elderly or have a complicating physical/medical condition.

Here are the changes:

On Christmas Eve, [Thursday, December 24, 2020] there will be Masses at 3:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Attendees at these Masses will have the ability - if they choose- to sit in the Parish Hall to view Mass on a large screen. As is our practice, Holy Communion will be brought to them by a Eucharistic Minister.

Please note that there will not be a 4:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve nor will there be a Midnight Mass.

On Christmas Day, [Friday, December 25, 2020] there will be Masses at 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Each Mass will be shown “live” on the Parish Facebook page. In addition the 3:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve will be re-broadcast on Christmas Day on local cable television on Channel 3 [Comcast] and Channel 47 [Verizon] at 8:00 a.m and 11:00 a.m.

Please recall that as Catholics we celebrate “Christmas” on more than a day- it is a liturgical season that begins with the vigil Masses on Christmas Eve and concludes on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on January 10, 2021. This brings us many opportunities to attend mass to celebrate “Emmanuel” [“God is With Us”].

Sadly, as has been the case since the virus began, there will not be any Choir at any of the masses.

The door to the Church will be open 30 minutes before each mass and we respectfully request that all attendees leave the church promptly and safely after each mass.

Please consider these factors as Christmas approaches and make appropriate decisions to insure the health of your personal families and our parish family as well.

Christmas blessings to the many volunteers who have made worship possible by staying after each Mass or service to disinfect the church. Without their great generosity the doors of our church would be closed.

May the grace and wisdom of the Child born in Bethlehem be upon you and your families this Christmas Season.

Peace,

Father Paul



Religious Education

News and Notes

straphaelmedford@yahoo.com

Advent Beginnings for Families

Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come." (Mark 13:33)

Sometimes Scripture passages can seem distant. Then along came 2020. We're watchful about spreading the virus. We are alert to any cough or fever our kids get. When loved ones are admitted to the hospital, we don't know when the time will come that we might see them again. But let's remember this: God watches too. When we've been shut inside, God has been there. When we watch and wait with loved ones, God watches alongside us. This Advent, let us be watchful of the ways God is here right now, loving us and asking us to trust him.

Family Prayer: Light one candle on an Advent wreath. One person can read the prayer aloud while everyone else responds after each line:

We walk in the light of the Lord.*

- Lord God, we look for you during Advent with hope. *
- Give us some light each day to find you. *
- Help us walk in your light, and shine it for others. *

Advent Action: The first Advent candle is called the Prophecy Candle. It symbolizes HOPE. During a meal (or other appropriate time) – talk about times when things felt dark this year, and what gave you hope.

(A New Light Shines. Connie Clark)

HEARTLIGHT PROGRAM:

Special thanks to the families who delivered "Thanksgiving Packages" to the sick and homebound of our parish. You made "happy hearts". In advance – we will need volunteers (mid Dec.) for Christmas deliveries. Please contact: Mrs. Malone/Ms. McCabe: straphaelmedford@yahoo.com We need your assistance to make this "outreach" happen for our seniors. Very appreciated!!

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 cleaning the church after each Mass. If you are able to donate 10-15 minutes of your time during the week or weekend – please contact Michelle Paone at 781-488-5444 or mpaone@straphaelparishschool.org Very much appreciated!

Community Fundraiser

Simple Fare will donate 15% of your purchases on:
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781-391-3335 www.simplefaremedford.com

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Valid for Takeout or Delivery on date listed above only.

welcome

We would like to welcome another new family to the St. Raphael Community.

The Delisi Family

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

MASS COUNT

Saturday, November 14 4:00PM—104

Sunday, November 22 7:30AM - 86
(81 inside, 5 outside)

9:15AM - 78
(77 inside, 1 outside)

11:30AM - 69

5:00PM - 65

TOTAL: 402

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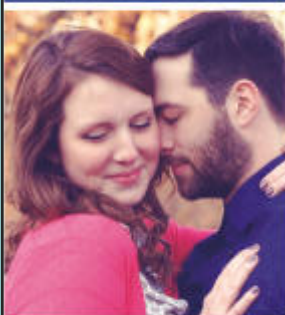
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