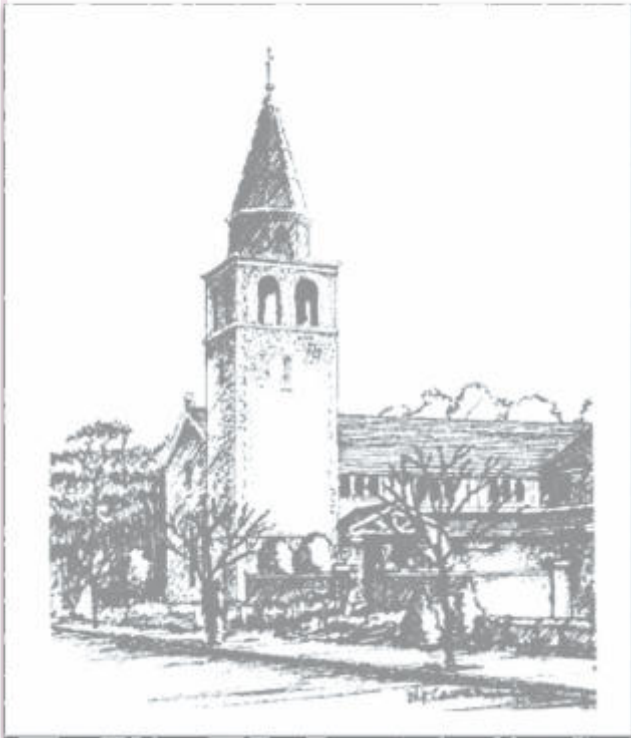


Saint Raphael Parish

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, December 5, 2020

4:00 PM Margaret & Tom 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 AM Thomas & Lorraine Fallon
Memorial

5:00 PM Patricia McCarthy
10th Anniversary

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

8:00 AM Feast of the Immaculate
Conception

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

8:00 AM Rev. Richard Harrington
11th Anniversary

Thursday, December 10, 2020

8:00 AM Ruth Holley & Gloria Hassett
Memorial

Friday, December 11, 2020

8:00 AM Mary Donlan
2nd Anniversary

Saturday, December 12, 2020

8:00 AM Marie "Mary" Butler
Memorial

4:00 PM Foley, Fortino, Pigott &
Quinn Families
Memorial

Sunday, December 13, 2020

7:30 AM
9:15 AM Daniel O'Neill
19th Anniversary

11:30 PM Mary E. Porter
Anniversary

5:00 PM Richard Barnard II
20th Anniversary



Tuesday, December 8 is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. There will be a Mass that morning at 8:00 am. You can also watch it from our YouTube link: www.youtube.com/c/saintraphaelparishmedford or access it through the St. Raphael Facebook page. Please note, it is not a holy day of obligation this year.

We would like to thank all those who donated food and money to the Food Pantry for Thanksgiving. This year we helped 155 families and individuals enjoy a nice Thanksgiving meal.

We would also like to thank Joan Gatto at the Magnificent Muffin Shop as well as Stop & Shop, Wegmans, Market Basket, Lyndell's, Panera and La Patisserie.

A special thank you as well to Medford City Councilor Rick Caraviello for his continued help to our food pantry.

Thank you!



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!



Rest in Peace

Kindly remember in your prayers the souls of:
Brendan Sullivan, Thomas Hall, Mildred DeAngelis,
John Bova, Fr. Richard Harrington & Fr. Robert Fountain

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 for Families

Go up on to a high mountain, Zion, herald of glad tidings; cry out at the top of your voice. (Isaiah 40:9)

"I think all parents have learned this year that teachers really do have superpowers. Still, kids have learned more under our guidance than we might realize. Last spring, during an extraordinary blessing from an empty St. Peter's Square, Pope Francis asked, "How many fathers, mothers, grandparents, and teachers are showing our children, in small everyday gestures how to face up to and navigate a crisis by adjusting their routines, lifting their gaze, and fostering prayer? How many are praying, offering, and interceding for the good of all?" God sees all the sacrifices you've made and blesses your effort!"

Family Prayer: Light the second candle of your Advent wreath. Have one person read the prayer aloud; the rest of the family can respond after each line:

- **Jesus, light our way.***
- **Jesus, today we remember all that happened on the journey to Bethlehem.***
- **Like Mary and Joseph, we are on a journey too.***
- **Guide us, Lord, when things don't go our way. Give us faith to keep looking ahead.***

Advent Action: The second candle of the Advent wreath is called the Bethlehem candle and represents faith. Find some time this week to pray together as a family. Set-up your nativity set in preparation for Christmas. (A New Light Shines, Connie Clark)

HEARTLIGHT PROGRAM:

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!!

PS – Families who delivered Thanksgiving "gifts" -- please let us know if you want to make the same deliveries as we would reserve the names for you!!

SCHOOL NEWS

Community Fundraiser

Simple Fare will donate 15% of your purchases on:
December 15th To St. Raphael School

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460 High Street Medford, MA 02155
781-391-3335 www.simplefaremedford.com

Please present this card or mention St Raphael's when placing your food order to have 15% of your sales receipt (excluding tax) donated to St. Raphael's School.

Valid for Takeout or Delivery on date listed above only.

St. Raphael School is collecting donations of new hats, gloves and mittens for DCF until December 16th.

We are celebrating St. Nicholas day in school on December 7th.

Students are learning about Advent and what each candle and color represents. They are also making advents wreaths in class.



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.

MASS COUNT

Saturday, November 28 4:00PM—107

Sunday, November 29 7:30AM - 80
(73 inside, 7 outside)

9:15AM - 107
(106 inside, 1 outside)

11:30AM - 76

5:00PM - 60

TOTAL: 430

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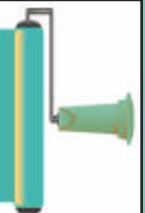
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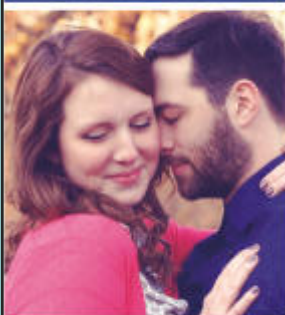
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