



# ST. RAPHAEL

— CATHOLIC CHURCH —

MAY 2, 2021 | FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



## CONTACT US

2514 Lee Boulevard  
Lehigh Acres, FL 33971

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parishoffice@saintraphaelccla.org

www.saintraphaelcc.net

## MASS TIMES

Monday - Friday | 8AM

Saturday | 8AM, 5PM

Sunday 8AM, 10AM, 12Noon (English)  
5:30PM (Español)

## CONFESSIONS

Wednesday | 6PM-7PM

Saturday | 4PM-4:45PM

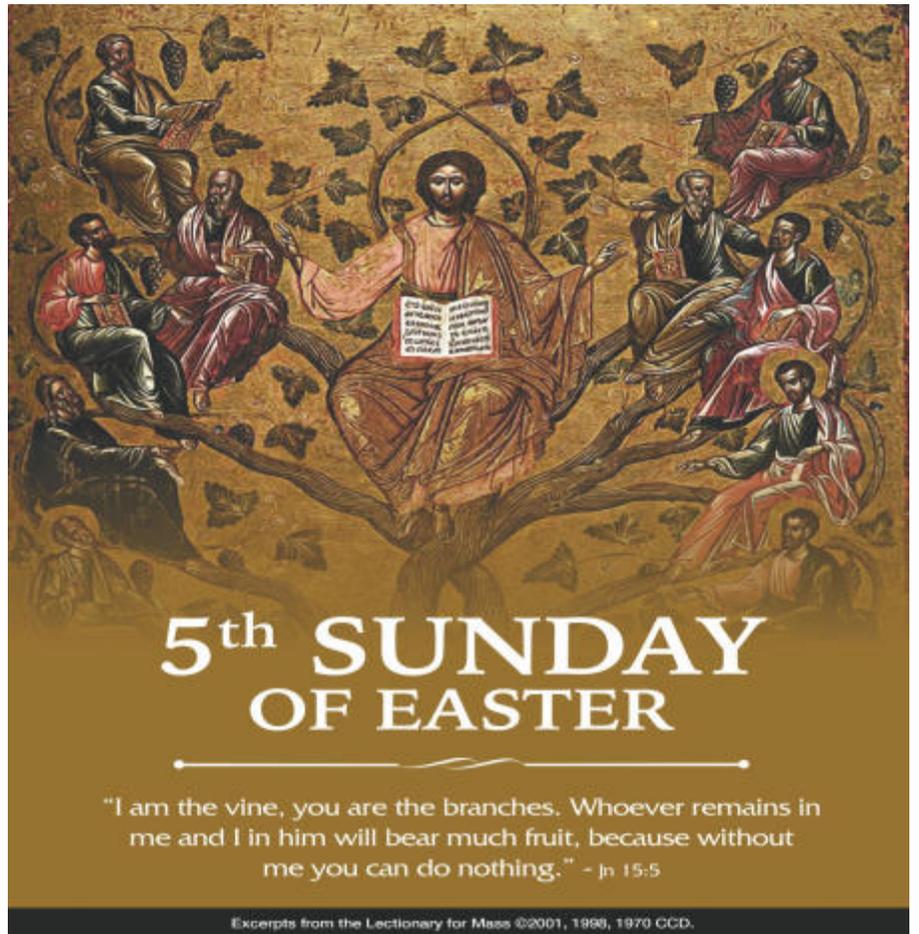
Sunday | 4:30PM-5:15PM (Español)

## PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Michal Szyszka, *Administrator*

Rev. Deacon Joseph W. Allison,  
*Director of Religious Education*

Rev. Deacon Edward J. Gwiazda



## PRAYER TO ST. RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Glorious Archangel St. Raphael, great prince of the heavenly court, you are illustrious for your gifts of wisdom and grace. You are a guide of those who journey by land or sea or air, consoler of afflicted, and refuge of sinners.

I beg you, assist me in all my needs and in all the sufferings of this life, as once you helped

the young Tobias on his travels. Because you are the "medicine of God," I humbly pray you to heal the many infirmities of my soul and the ills that afflict my body. I especially ask you the favour (name it) and the great grace of purity to prepare me to be the temple of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## SCHEDULE AND RESOURCES

**Baptisms** - Parents must be registered parishioners. Call the parish office for more information.

**Marriages** - Please contact a priest at least six months prior to the date.

For information on other sacraments or sick calls please call the rectory.

**Kindergarten-6 Grade Classes** - Contact Deacon Joe Allison for online registration.

**7th & 8th Grade Classes** - Contact Deacon Joe Alison for online registration.

**Confirmation** Sacramental Prep Classes- Wednesday 6:30-9:00PM

Communion Sacramental Prep Classes - Sunday 1-9PM (time varies according to group).

**RCIA** - Monday 7-9 PM in Spanish & Tuesday 7-9PM in English

**Catholic Charities** - 239-337-4193

**Prayer Line** - Please call 369-3111 and leave your prayer request on the recording or email it to: doroathybress@gmail.com

**Perpetual Adoration** - The Chapel is open 8:30AM - 4:30PM Monday – Thursday, Saturday & Sunday . On Fridays Adoration is in the Church 8:30AM – 4:30PM (the chapel is closed on Fridays)

**Pregnancy Resources** -Turn to the pro-life movement for help. Community Pregnancy Clinic 689-1543, Birthright 1-800-550-4900, Carenet/Heartbeat 1-800-395-HELP or Bethany Christian Services 1-800-238-4269.

**Knights of Columbus** - For more information on St. Raphael's K of C #6265 please call 369-5632 or see the website KofC6265.org.

**Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary** - 1st Thursday of the month 7:00-8:30PM in the Knights Hall. For more information see the Knights of Columbus website or call Kris Repnyek at 239-691-5301.

**Knights of Columbus Maidens of The Blessed Mother** - Catholic girls age 10-17. For more information call M.J. at 239-410-7655.

**Secular Carmelites Community** - 3rd Sunday of the month from 2-5PM in the school building. Please call Pedro Gonzalez at 239-292-3996 for more information.

**Legion of Mary** - Tuesdays in the school building at 2:00PM.

**Altar & Rosary Society** - 1st Fridays following Mass September-May.

**Cristo Rey (Spanish Charismatic) Prayer Group** - Thursdays at 7:00PM in the parish hall.

**Emaus: Men's/Women's Groups** - Mondays at 7PM in the parish hall.

**Haitian Prayer Group** - Tuesdays in the school building at 7PM. For more information call 491-6719.

**A Walk with St. Monica Prayer Group** - 1st Thursday of the month in the Church after 8AM Mass. For more information call Mary at 491-8103.

Is Gossip a Sin?

Question:

Is gossip a mortal sin?

Answer:

To really ask this question, we must consider the Eighth Commandment: “You shall not bear false witness.” In its reflections on this commandment, The Catechism of the Catholic Church invites us to not only think about what bearing “false witness” means, but to also consider how we understand the truth and how we communicate more broadly. This is why so much of this section of the Catechism has to do with the gift of language. With this in mind, we will notice that the word “gossip” isn’t used by the Catechism. Instead, we find the words “detraction” and “calumny,” which are actually two forms that gossip can take, and both can be quite serious.

First, detraction is the of revealing “another’s faults and failings to persons who did not know them,” without morally valid reasons. Calumny, by extension, is saying something about another person that is untrue, and it is sinful because it “harms the reputation of others and gives occasion for false judgements” (see no. 2477).

In all of our communication, we have to always recognize that we have a moral obligation to the truth and to always work to protect the reputation and honor of our neighbors (see no. 2479).

Gossip can, in fact, prove to be a very serious sin. After all, the Catechism reminds us: “No one is bound to reveal the truth to someone who does not have the right to know it” (no. 2489). When we have gossiped, especially if we are aware we have damaged another person’s good name or reputation, we want to make every effort to undo the damage we have done, including seeking the grace and forgiveness offered in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

©LPi

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday May 1, 2021

5:00PM †Sidney Floyd, Jr.  
Req. Wife, Glenda Floyd

### Sunday May 2, 2021

8:00 AM Parishioners  
10:00 AM †Rosina Sanchez  
Req. Rosamary Rodriguez & Family  
12Noon †Souls in Purgatory

### Monday May 3, 2021

8:00 AM †Guadalupe Estrada  
Req. Husband Jose & Family

### Tuesday May 4, 2021

8:00 AM †Michael Wasula  
Req. Eisinger Family

### Wednesday May 5, 2021

8:00 AM Eric, Shannon & Ember Holland  
Req. Dad & Mom

### Thursday May 6, 2021

8:00AM †Donald O'Grady  
Req. Nieces, Rita Healy & Linda Zastrow

### Friday May 7, 2021

8:00AM †Deceased Members of The Altar &  
Rosary Society  
Req. The Altar & Rosary Society

### Saturday May 8, 2021

8:00 AM †Salvatore & Louise D'Adonna &  
Alan Blum  
Req. Family  
5:00PM †Gloria Sostre  
Req. Family

### Sunday May 9, 2021

8:00 AM Parishioners  
10:00 AM †Julie Carner, Danielle DiBenedetto, Pansy  
Kepler, Sandra Winslow, Marilyn Prather  
& Margaret Each  
Req. Paul & Jenna Clark & Family  
12Noon †Juana Zayas  
Req. Tyler & Sandra

**Hi, it's me, your spiritually adopted baby.** I am 6 weeks old now! Mommy still can't feel me, but my arms can now bend at the elbow and my hands flex at my wrist. I love to move about! **"I am the Lord who created you; from the time you were born, I have helped you."** *Isai-ah 44:2*

## ALTAR FLOWERS

The church altar flowers have been donated this week by **The Knights of Columbus & Auxiliary.**

Our St. Monica's Prayer Group meets the first Thursday of the month in the Church at 9AM to pray for our loved ones who have left the Catholic Church. Please join us from 9-10AM this Thursday morning for prayer.

**Retrouvaille**, hope for troubled marriages, call 1-800-470-2230 or visit [www.HelpOurMarriage.com](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com).

Whatever your stumbling block is, **GOD** is bigger. And his **grace** breathed into a stumbling block allows it to become a stepping stone.

**Project Rachel is a confidential healing ministry for women and men who have been touched by abortion. If you are struggling after an abortion, don't struggle alone. Call toll free in Florida 1-877-908-1212 or e-mail [project.rachel@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:project.rachel@dioceseofvenice.org) for help.**



The Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus invite the women of St. Raphael Parish who are 18 years and over to join us; helping the Knights in their spiritual and corporal works of mercy. Our meetings begin on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30PM at 1250 Business Way (next to the bowling alley). We welcome your attendance this week on May 6th at the Knights hall.

Traveling Companions' book club in May, the Month of Mary, will be reading and discussing, 'Meditations on Mary, Our Mother,' by St. John Henry Cardinal Newman; we will meet by Zoom, May 4th, 18th, and 25th, Tuesday's, 6PM. Please join us! 239-994-7125



The Knights of Columbus will be having their breakfast on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month. They will be serving scrambled eggs, special scrambled eggs, French toast, sausage patties & links, hash browns, gravy & sausage, coffee, juices and milk.

**The Jay Carano Gift Shop** is open before & after the weekend Masses. We have a large selection of gifts.

# Prayer and Worship

## The Prayer or Blessing Against Storms

*Please pray this prayer against storms. Bless yourself with the sign of the Cross when you see the †*

Jesus Christ a King of Glory has come in Peace. † God became man, † And the Word was made flesh. † Christ was born of a Virgin. † Christ suffered. † Christ was crucified. † Christ died. † Christ rose from the dead. † Christ ascended into Heaven. † Christ conquers. † Christ reigns. † Christ orders. † May Christ protect us from all storms and lightning. † Christ went through their midst in Peace, † And the Word was made flesh. † Christ is with us in Mary. † Flee you enemy spirits because the Lion of the Generation of Juda, the root David, has won. † Holy God! † Holy Powerful God! † Holy Immortal God! † Have mercy on us. Amen!

## A PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

Lord Jesus, you have chosen your priests from among us and sent them out to proclaim your word and act in your name. For so great a gift to your Church, we give you praise and thanksgiving. We ask you to fill them with the fire of your love, that their ministry may reveal your presence in the Church. Since they are earthen vessels, we pray that your power shines out through their weakness. In their afflictions let them never be crushed, in their doubts never despair, in temptation never be destroyed, and in persecution never abandoned. Inspire them through prayer to live each day

the mystery of your dying and rising. In times of weakness send them your Spirit and help them to praise your Heavenly Father and pray for poor sinners. By your same Holy Spirit put your word on their lips and your love in their hearts, to bring good news to the poor and healing to the brokenhearted. And may the gift of Mary, your Mother, to the disciple whom you loved, be your gift to every priest. Grant that she who formed you in her human image, may form them in your divine image, by the power of your Spirit, to the glory of God the Father, Amen.

- SAINT TERESA OF CALCUTTA  
VOCATION SOCIETY

## A PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS

Dear St. Ann you were truly twice blessed to have our blessed mother as your daughter and Jesus our Savior as your grandson. I know that every period of our lives has its responsibilities as well as its joys. Today, it seems that grandparents have either too little use or too much; either we are shunted aside to do nothing, or we are called upon to do everything. Help me to know just where my duties lie in my particular situation and to carry them out as best I can. Take care of my family, my children, and their children. Inspire them all to follow your grandson and lead truly Christian lives. Keep all of us in your loving care, never let us turn away from Jesus, and help us in the end to receive the joy of entering into your grandson's glorious presence forever. Good St. Ann pray for us grandparents. Amen.

**Merciful Lord,** your heart is full of loving kindness. Our hearts are full of praise to you. You are worthy of our full devotion. Lord, today we lift up our Church to you. We pray for the sick, for the grieving, for the lonely, for the broken, for the confused, and for *all* those who are needy this day. We pray that you would bring your strength, your healing, your comfort, your wisdom, your restoration, your protection, and your provision. Thank you for giving us a church family to belong to and to love. Amen.



## PRAYER AGAINST CORONAVIRUS

Lord Jesus Christ, our Divine Physician, we ask you to guard and protect us from Coronavirus COVID-19 and all serious illness. For all that have died from it, bring healing. For those searching for a remedy, enlighten them; for medical caregivers helping the sick, strengthen and shield them. For those working to contain the spread, grant them success; for those afraid, grant peace. May your precious blood be our defense and salvation. By your grace, may you turn the evil of disease into moments of consolation and hope. May we always fear the contagion of sin more than any illness. We abandon ourselves to your infinite mercy. Amen.

- PEDRO DE LA CRUZ

## PRAYER FOR MARRIAGE & FAMILY

Lord God, we pray for the institution of marriage and the family which is on the verge of ruin in the world today. The strong waves of the evil one are hitting hard the foundations of marriage and many unions are breaking up very fast. God, we need You to send down the Holy Spirit so that He can teach us Your values and tenets that can guide us to strengthen our marriages. Inspire us with Your knowledge that it is You who gave us the institution of marriage and that You require us to respect it and remain solidly in it. Dear God, we know that we are sinners and we sometimes give in to sin and evil temptations that ruin our marriages. Give us the strength and support to resist all temptations that ruin our marriage. May our children grow up in families that are steady and strong so that they can learn Your good values and become productive people in Your vineyard. Amen.



## MOTHER'S DAY SPIRITUAL BOUQUET

Beginning Mother's Day St. Raphael's will be having A Nine Day Novena of Masses for the intentions of all the names submitted on the Mother's Day Envelopes. The names will be placed on the Altar during the Nine Day Novena.

**The National Catholic Bioethics Center (NCBC)** provides free consultation services to individuals facing difficult ethical decisions related to health care. In emergency situations an NCBC ethicist is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by calling 215-877-2660. NCBC ethicists do not provide legal or medical advice.

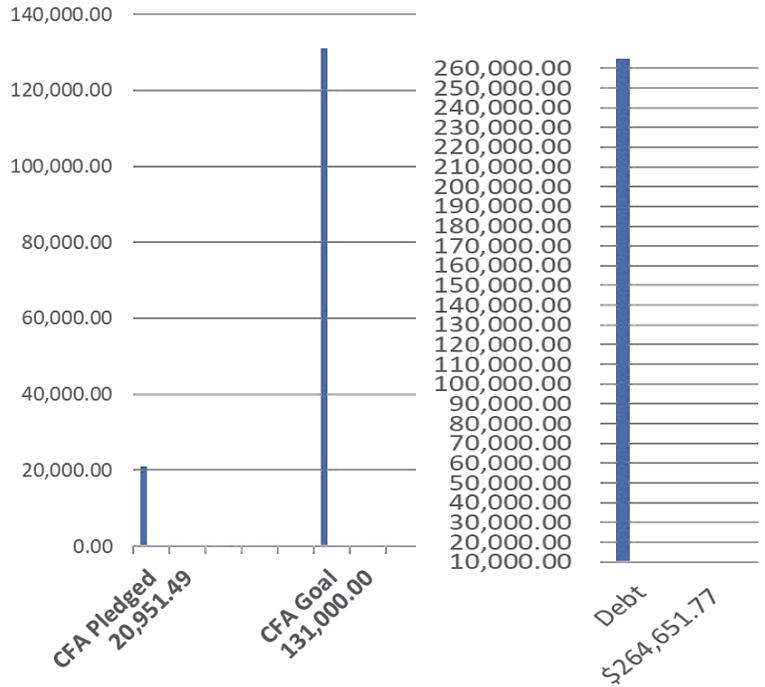
### Know a Young Person with a Drug Problem?

Maybe you know of a young friend, neighbor or classmate who suffers from drug addiction and does not know where to turn for help. Drug Addicts Anonymous believes all individuals suffering from addiction have a right to access recovery, be self-sufficient and independent. Yet, today many young people affected by drug addiction are deprived of a sense of self-worth because they cannot pay for proper treatment or access recovery resources and support. DAA provides an opportunity for long term recovery and positive change through a no cost service. Based on a 12-step program, the focus is on the physical, mental and spiritual condition as a whole person; contributing to the individual's social reintegration in a dignified and efficient way. For program information and services available, please call 561-420-0930 or visit [www.daamerica.org](http://www.daamerica.org).

**"Witnessing Faith with Bishop Dewane"** - Join Most Reverend Frank J. Dewane, Bishop of the Diocese of Venice, for his monthly radio program on Relevant Radio. "Witnessing Faith with Bishop Dewane" can be heard at 8:30AM on the last Friday of each month on 1410 AM and 106.7 FM in Fort Myers. All can listen at <https://dioceseofvenice.org/our-bishop/relevant-radio-podcasts>.

The Catholic Faith Appeal (CFA) contributes to the pastoral, education, and charitable support of those in need in the Diocese of Venice. Our parish also benefits from the CFA if we exceed our goal of \$131,000.00. Join those in our parish family who have made a gift to the 2021 CFA. Your gift will make a difference in the lives of those who are assisted by the programs and ministries funded through the CFA.

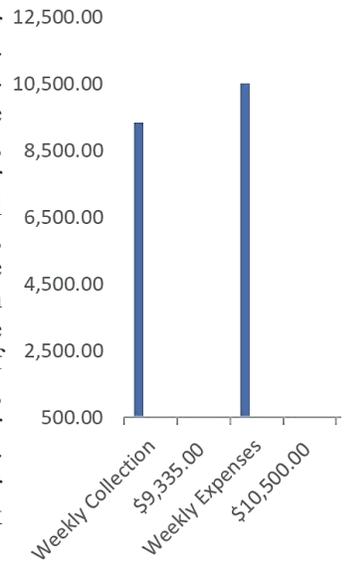
To make a gift, visit <https://dioceseofvenice.org/ways-to-give/cfa/> or complete a pledge envelope located at the back of the church and submit it either to the Parish office or in the offering basket. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.



During these challenging times, parishes face increased risk of financial shortfalls due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic and its effects on everyday life. Parishes depend on weekly financial gifts to continue their ministries, especially in this critical time of crisis. Please prayerfully consider a donation to the parish by using your envelopes, mailing your contribution or online giving. Together we will navigate through this pandemic, aid those in need, and secure the road ahead for the parishes within the Diocese of Venice. Please continue to pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died, for the recovery of the sick, for the strength of healthcare workers and caregivers, as well as for an end to this health crisis. Thank you for your generosity.



April 24th & 25th Attendance: 916



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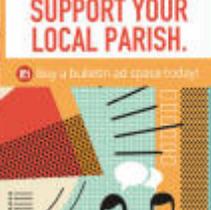
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