



ST. RAPHAEL

— CATHOLIC CHURCH —

MAY 9, 2021 | SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



CONTACT US

2514 Lee Boulevard
Lehigh Acres, FL 33971

(239) 369-1831
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

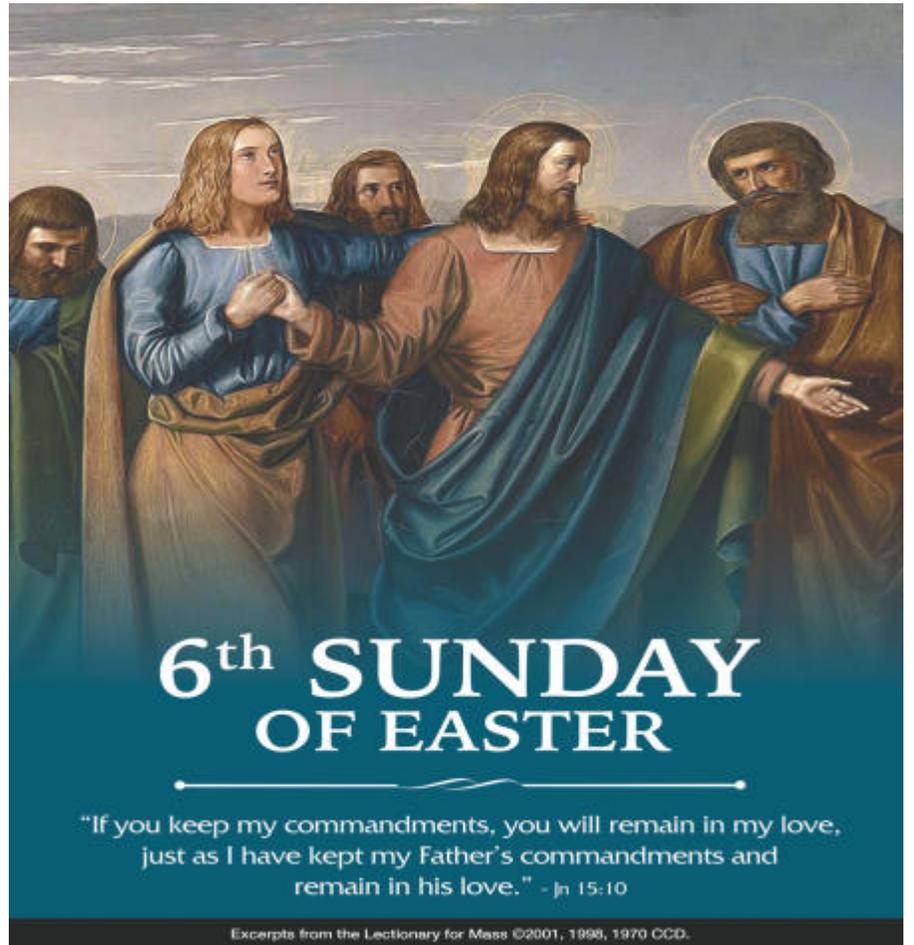
Sunday | 4:30PM-5:15PM (Español)

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: dorothebress@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.

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.

Divine Mercy Prayer Group (Spanish) - Please call the parish office for information.

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.

Saint Vs. Blessed

Question:

What is the difference between a “Saint” and a “Blessed”?

Answer:

The process of proclaiming someone as a saint in the Catholic Church has evolved over the course of many centuries. In the beginning, those honored as saints were almost exclusively biblical figures or martyrs. However, after the legalization of Christianity in the fourth century, new holy women and men came to be honored as saints, and this was often done by popular acclaim or by the local bishop or abbot.

It was Pope Gregory IX (who was pope from 1227 to 1241) who officially proclaimed that only the pope had the authority to add someone to the official list (the “canon”) of saints. This is the meaning of the word “canonization.”

Today, the saint-making process includes several steps, including detailed studies of the person’s life and a recognition that they died as a martyr or lived a life of “heroic virtue.” Once someone is recognized as a martyr or if a miracle is attributed to their intercession, they will be beatified and honored as “Blessed.” This means that they can be celebrated by Catholics in a particular country or region or by the members of certain religious community. If another miracle occurs and is approved, then the “Blessed” is canonized and honored with the title “Saint,” meaning that they are now officially recognized as a universal model of holiness and an intercessor.

©LPi

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday May 8, 2021

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

Monday May 10, 2021

8:00 AM †Rose Delaney
Req. Family

Tuesday May 11, 2021

8:00 AM †Catherine Sasse
Req. Lynn Rinzel

Wednesday May 12, 2021

8:00 AM †Ann Lomas
Req. Andy & Nancy Fleischman

Thursday May 13, 2021

8:00AM †Leo Zeitz
Req. Wife, Lore Zeitz

Friday May 14, 2021

8:00AM †Dorothy O'Grady
Req. Niece, Diana Decker

Saturday May 15, 2021

8:00 AM †Souls in Purgatory
5:00PM †Pasquale Siracusa
Req. Wife, Tatiana Siracusa

Sunday May 16, 2021

8:00 AM Parishioners
10:00 AM †Johnanthony Ardolino
Req. Wife, Nicole Ardolino
12Noon †Rev. Dennis Cooney
Req. Sister Providence

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 for help.

Retrouvaille, hope for troubled marriages, call 1-800-470-2230 or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The church altar flowers have been donated this week by **St. Raphael's Bingo**.

CHAPEL CANDLE

The chapel candle has been donated this week in loving memory of **Clara D. Mescallado & Encarnacion J. Gerardo** requested by **Penn J. & Rose M. Gerardo**.

Hi, it's me again, your spiritually adopted baby. I am no longer an embryo but a fetus. Fetus means "little one" and that is a pretty good description of me because I am 1 inch long. Wow, that is thousands of times larger than when I first came into existence at conception just 7 weeks ago! All my organs, muscles and nerves are beginning to function. My eyelids are even beginning to cover my eyes. **"Great is the Lord and highly to be praised; His greatness is beyond understanding" Psalm 145:3**

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

MEN OF ST. JOSEPH MEETING NOTICE

The next meeting is on Monday, May 10th at 7PM at the Knights of Columbus Hall. The meeting topic will be Basics of Spiritual Growth. Join us for fellowship and refreshments. All men of the parish are welcome to join us.

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

Now that the Covid restrictions have been relaxed, and our Bishop agrees, we are no longer restricted to six people in the chapel. Since there are many people who like to visit the chapel early in the morning, the chapel will be open at 6AM beginning on Monday, May 17th. We will still close the chapel at 4:30PM. Consideration will be given to extending the hours into the evening when we have firm commitments that the hours will be filled. Open adoration chapels should always have adorers (and guardians) while the chapel is open. With the departure north of some of our adorers, we are encouraging commitments from some generous adorers to fill some— mostly midday and weekend hours. Also, we would welcome those who would be willing to cover an hour when an adorer finds it impossible to be present.

We are blessed to have a beautiful place to visit Our Blessed Lord. Let us show Him we appreciate His being here for us.

Please call Miriam at 239-250-4649

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.**



DIocese OF Venice IN Florida
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

May 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC) is an opportunity to bring truth and hope to people across the United States and around the world. The essential mission of the CCC is to contribute to the process of evangelization by fostering activities in relation to television, radio, internet, other media, and through special projects of the Catholic press.

Fifty percent of the funds raised by the CCC support projects across the US and in developing countries and the other fifty percent stays here in the Diocese of Venice. It is an opportunity to bring truth and hope to people across the United States, around the world and, in your own communities.

The Collection for the CCC allows us to tell both the world and our neighbors about our experience of faith, worship, and witness. Please support this important work in the upcoming Collection which will be May 15 and 16, 2021 in the Diocese of Venice. Thank you for your generosity!

I take this opportunity to extend to you my continued consideration and my prayers.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Frank J. Dewane
+ Frank J. Dewane
Bishop of the Diocese of
Venice in Florida

1000 Pinebrook Road • Venice, FL 34285 • 941-484-9543 • www.dioceseofvenice.org • Fax 941-488-2561

Venice Diocesan Council of Catholic Women 34th Annual Convention



"What have you done for the least of my people?"
Matthew 25:40

This year's VDCCW Convention is being hosted at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church @ 1301 Center Road, Venice, FL 34293

You're Invited to Attend ...

VDCCW Convention Day 1

Friday, June 4, 2021, starting @ 9:30am

VDCCW Convention Day 2

Saturday, June 5, 2021, starting @ 9:30am – Mass @ 3:00pm

**Cost of 2-day convention is \$75 and includes lunch each day
(cost of one day cost = \$65)**

Unfortunately, no registrations will be accepted after 5/25/2021

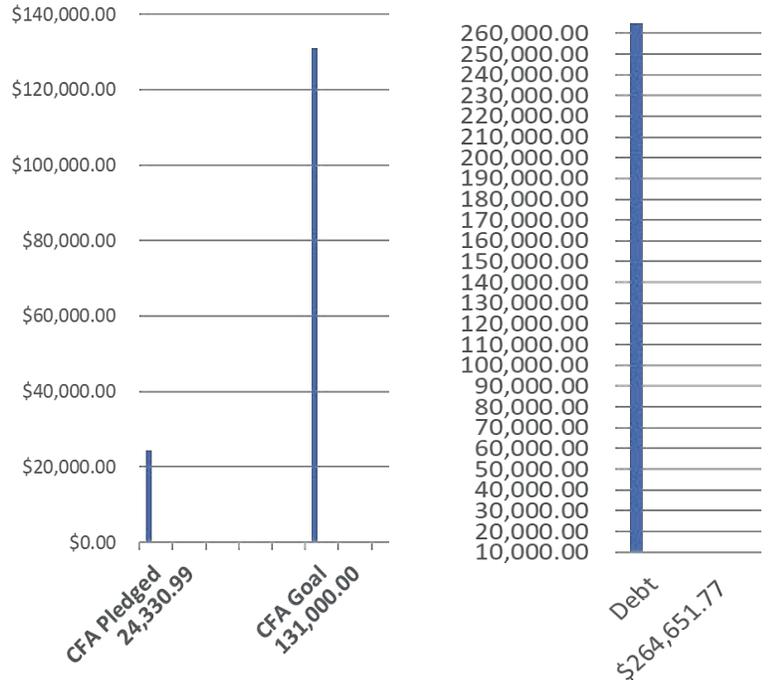
Each day will include personal development time, dynamic speakers and workshops, as well as providing the opportunity to meet women from around the Diocese along with the President of the Florida Council of Women.

Hear a motivating message from Bishop Dewane who will be present each day with a message for the group. Your Spirituality, Leadership and Service (mission statement) activities will be fed and challenged!

Please contact Bernadette Rafferty (raffs2@mindspring.com or (704) 968-9580) for registration applications or Ellen Bachman (pennyin99@aol.com or (941) 721-7393) for additional information.

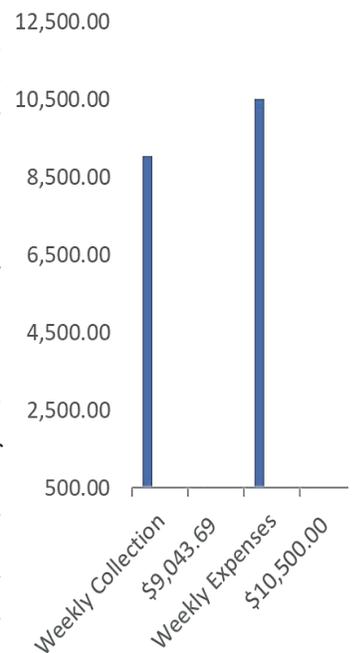
The Catholic Faith Appeal (CFA) contributes to the pastoral, education, and charitable support of those in need in the Diocese of Venice. Our parish also benefits from the CFA if we exceed our goal of \$131,000.00. Join those in our parish family who have made a gift to the 2021 CFA. Your gift will make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

May 1st & 2nd \$
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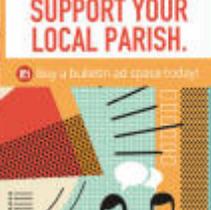
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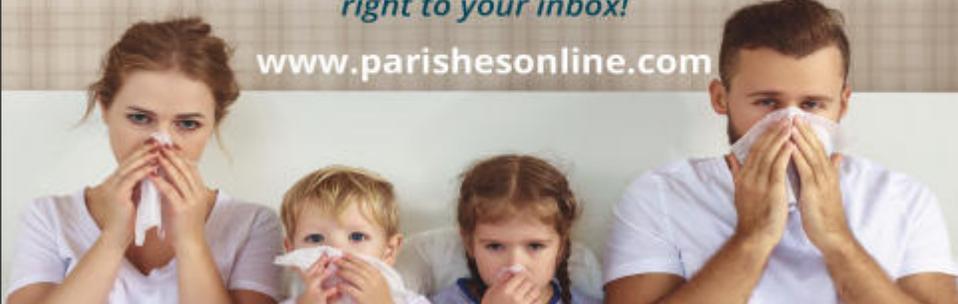
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