



ST. RAPHAEL

— CATHOLIC CHURCH —

DECEMBER 5, 2021 | THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



CONTACT US

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parishoffice@saintraphaelccla.org

www.saintraphaelcc.net

MASS TIMES

Monday - Friday | 8:00AM

Saturday | 8:00AM, 5:00PM

Sunday 7:30AM, 9:00AM, 12:00PM
(English)

10:30AM & 5:30PM (Español)

CONFESSIONS

Wednesday | 6:00PM-7:00PM

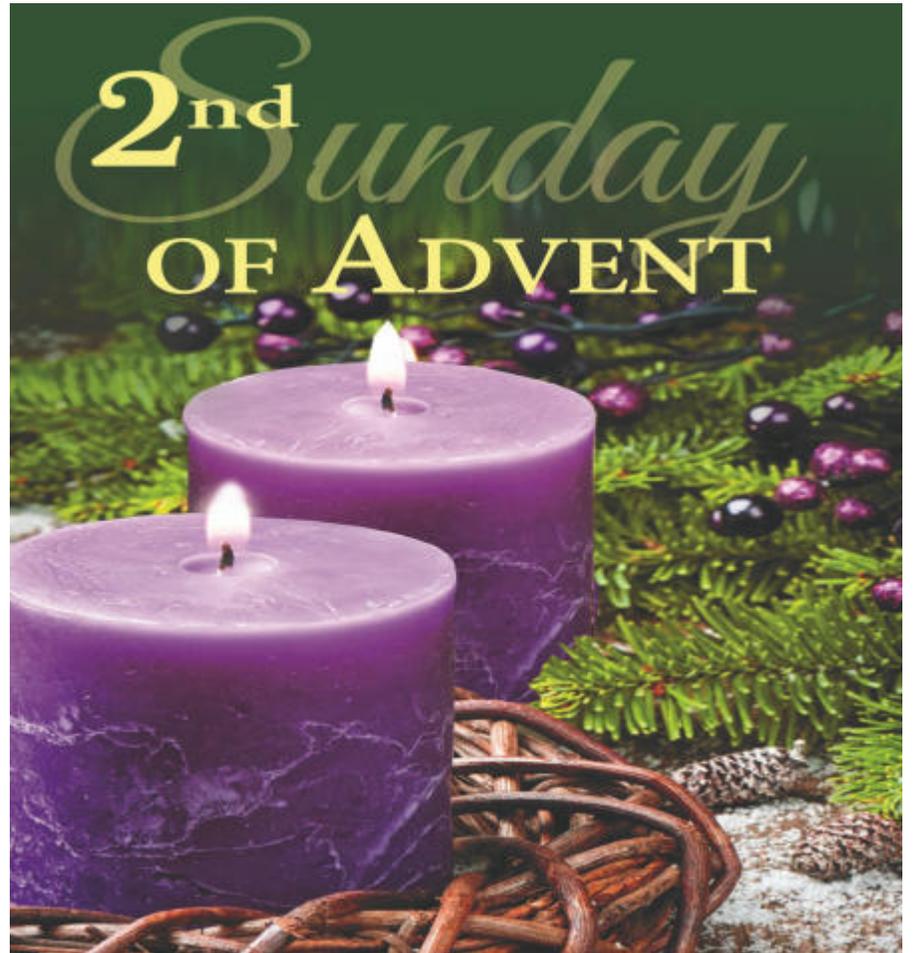
Saturday | 4:00PM-4:45PM

Sunday | 4:30PM-5:15PM (Español)

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Michal Szyszka, *Administrator*

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



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 – Fifth Grade

Sunday Mornings 8:30AM – 9:45AM
or 10:30AM – 11:45AM

Middle School Class Sunday

Afternoons 2:00PM – 3:15PM

Confirmation Class

Sunday Afternoons 3:45PM – 5:15PM

Sacramental Prep Classes

Wednesday Evenings 6:30PM –
8:00PM

RCIA (In school building)

Monday evenings 7:00PM – 9:00PM
in Spanish & Tuesday evenings
7:00PM – 9:00PM 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:
dorothybress@gmail.com

Perpetual Adoration - The Chapel is open every day from 6:00AM - 4:30PM . Call Miriam at 239-250-4649 for more information.

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.

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

Secular Carmelites Community - 3rd Sunday of the month from 2:00-5:00PM in the school building. Please call Pedro Gonzalez at 239-292-3996 for more information.

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

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

Divine Mercy Prayer Group (Spanish)- meets in the school building the 1st & 3rd Saturdays 8:00AM-Noon.

Emaus: Men's/Women's Groups - Mondays at 7:00PM in the parish hall.

Haitian Prayer Group - Fridays in the school building from 6:00-8:00PM. For more information call 491-6719.

A Walk with St. Monica Prayer Group - 1st Thursday of the month in the Church after 8:00AM Mass.

Christmas

Question:

With Christmas fast approaching, can you give me some practical tips to prepare myself and my family that will help us stay grounded in what this holiday is really about? With all the commercialism, it's easy to stray.

Answer:

Happy times and events bring fond memories and a renewed sense of love and kinship with others. The anticipation is half the joy of the event itself. The coming of the Lord is that kind of event that people have been looking forward to for generations with fervent hope and desire. It gave them strength and courage as they waited for the coming of the Lord.

We know that Christmas is rushed. Sales begin in August and carols blare long before the season begins. Everyone laments the commercial aspects of the season, but as Advent begins, do something to help you be more mindful of the Lord's coming. Use an Advent wreath, or enthrone the Bible prominently, or read the readings from the Bible assigned to each day. Postpone the tree and decorations until closer to Christmas. Establish new family rituals, customs and prayers that help remind everyone that we are preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Fasting, daily Mass, a special celebration of reconciliation, reaching out to those alienated from family or society, and visiting the homebound manifest the love of the Christ Child and the Holy Family. Resist the temptation to rush the season. In his own time and in his own way, God will come. Our task is simply to be watchful and ready.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday December 4, 2021

5:00PM †David Darr
Req. Donna Pavese

Sunday December 5, 2021

7:30AM Parishioners
9:00AM †Delores James
Req. Elizabeth Hosgood
10:30AM Future Marriage & Intentions of Maribella
Vieyra Lopez
12:00PM Jose Saldano

Monday December 6, 2021

8:00AM †Robert James
Req. Neighbor

Tuesday December 7, 2021

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

Wednesday December 8, 2021

8:00AM †Parishioners
5:00PM Deacon Mike & Judy
60th Anniversary
Req. Family
7:00PM †Bob James & †Carol James
Req. Frenny James

Thursday December 9, 2021

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

Friday December 10, 2021

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

Saturday December 11, 2021

8:00AM †William Kennedy
Req. Kathy Domanski
5:00PM †Art Johnson
Req. Denise Waletzko

Sunday December 12, 2021

7:30AM Parishioners
9:00AM †Rev. Dennis Cooney
Req. Sam & Judy Rossi
10:30AM †Betty Smith
Req. Ed & Sandra Yanke
12:00PM †James E. Handleton, Jr. 1st Anniversary
Req. Wife, Dolores

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.

ALTAR FLOWERS

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

SANCTUARY CANDLE

The sanctuary candle has been donated this week by an **anonymous donor**.

CHAPEL CANDLE

The chapel candle has been donated this week by an **anonymous donor**.

"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 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.

The Rotary Club will be serving Christmas Dinner on December 25th. Dinner will be served from 11:30AM-2:00PM. You may eat dinner in the parish hall or you may get your meal to go. **All are welcome!** No reservations are needed— just show up and enjoy.

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

Hi, it's me, your spiritually adopted baby. It's getting a bit crowded in here! That's OK with me because I'm nestled in here so safely and secure with my mom. It's actually kind of cozy! Whenever I'm awake, I'm soothed by the constant beating of her heart and I love to listen to her voice. Sometimes I give her a little nudge and she sends a little love pat my way. ***"Children are a gift from the Lord; They are a real blessing."*** **Psalm 127:3.** This blessing plans on spending some time pondering how great our God really is! Then I'm going to thank Him for the gift of life! Will you join me?

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

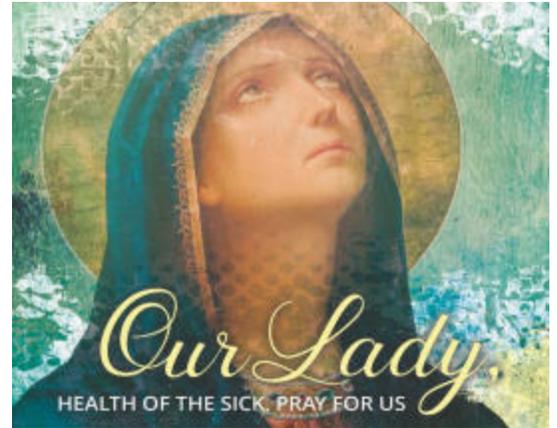
the mystery of your dying and rising. In times of weakness send them your Spirit and help them to praise your Heavenly Father and pray for poor sinners. By your same Holy Spirit put your word on their lips and your love in their hearts, to bring good news to the poor and healing to the brokenhearted. 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.**

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

The Immaculate Conception Wednesday, December 8th

8:00AM (English)
5:00PM (English)
7:00PM (Spanish)

Penance Service

Wednesday, December 15th

6:00PM (Priests Available in English
& Spanish)

Christmas Eve

Friday, December 24th

5:00PM (English)
8:00PM (Spanish)
10:00PM (English)
Midnight (English)

Christmas Day

Saturday, December 25th

8:00AM (English)
10:00AM (Spanish)
12:00PM (English)
5:00PM (English)*** for
Sunday Mass obligation

New Year's Eve

Friday, December 31st

8:00AM (English)
5:00PM (English)

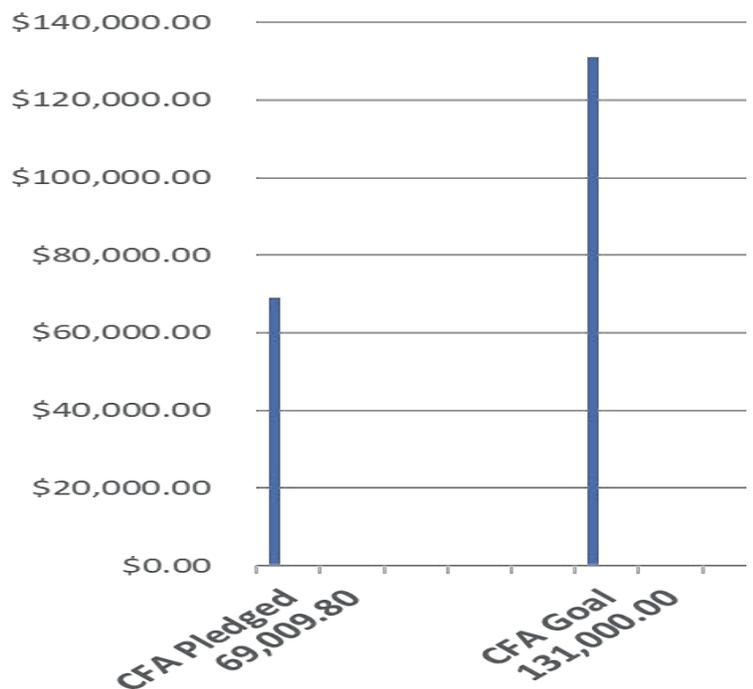
New Year's Day

Saturday, January 1st

8:00AM (English)
10:00AM (Spanish)
12:00PM (English)
5:00PM (English)*** for
Sunday Mass obligation

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 the offertory basket. **Thank you for your prayerful consideration.**



November 20th & 21st \$7,722.00
Attendance: 1,132

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.

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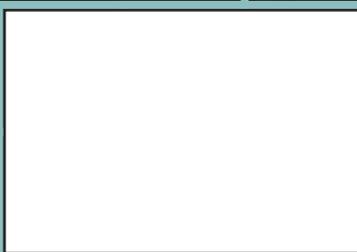
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