



# ST. RAPHAEL

— CATHOLIC CHURCH —

MARCH 10, 2024 | FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



## CONTACT US

2514 Lee Boulevard  
Lehigh Acres, FL 33971

Phone (239) 369-1831

Religious Education (239) 369-6424

Fax (239) 369-1039

parishoffice@saintraphaelccla.org

www.saintraphaelcc.net

## MASS TIMES

Monday - Friday | 8:00AM (English)

Saturday | 8:00AM, 5:00PM (English)  
6:30PM (Español)

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

10:30AM & 5:30PM (Español)

## CONFESSIONS

Wednesday | 6:00PM-7:00PM

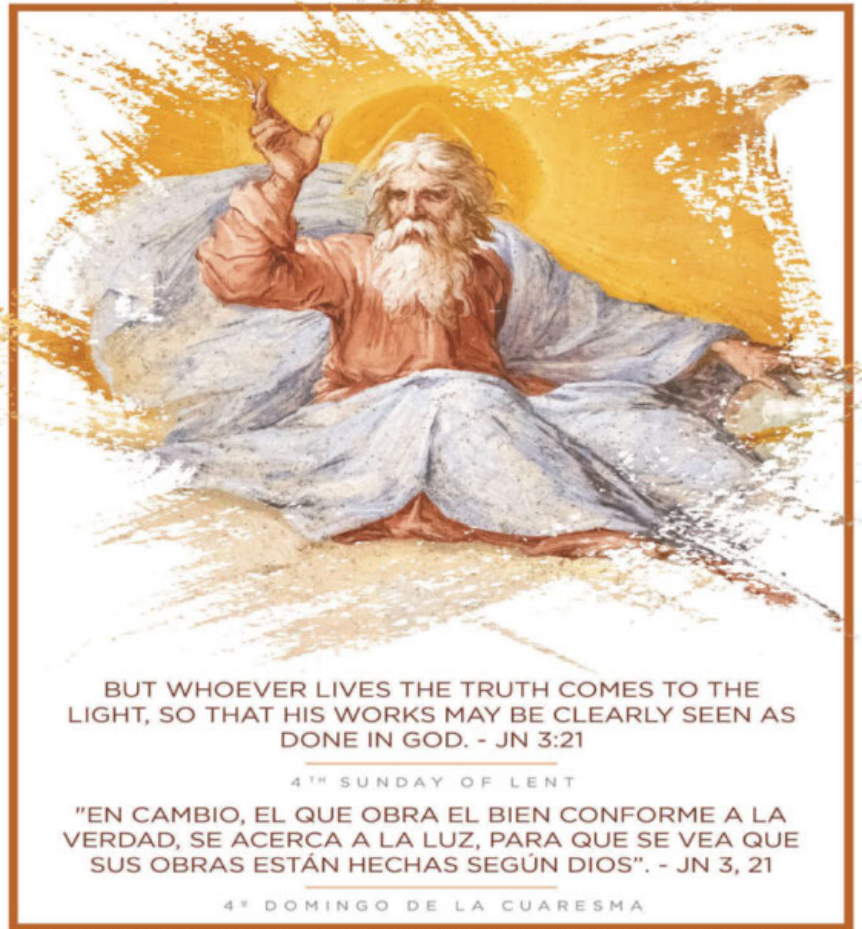
Saturday | 4:00PM-4:45PM

Sunday | 4:30PM-5:15PM (Español)

## PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Michal Szyszka, *Pastor*

Andy Mora,  
*Coordinator 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.

**First - Sixth Grade**  
Sunday 8:30AM – 9:45AM

**First - Eighth Grade**  
Sunday 10:30AM – 11:45AM

**Confirmation Class**  
Tuesday 6:00PM – 7:30PM

**Youth Group** meets every Sunday from 1:30PM-3:30PM in the parish hall.

**RCIA (school building)**  
Monday evening 7:00PM–9:00PM Spanish & Tuesday evening 7:00PM–9:00PM English

**Catholic Charities** - 239-337-4193  
**Prayer Line** - Call 369-1831 to leave your prayer request or email it to: ParishOffice@saintraphaelccla.org

**Perpetual Adoration Chapel** is open every day from 7:00AM - 4:30PM . Call Joann 508-278-6167 for more information.

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

**Knights of Columbus** - For more information 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 school building. For information see the knights website or call Nancy at 636-208-8806.

**Spanish Knights of Columbus**- Meets the 2nd Thursday of each month in the school building.

**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 Fridays at 10:30AM.

**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.

**St. John XXIII Prayer Group** meets every Tuesday at 7PM in the school building.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS  
By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

### The Uncomfortable Life in The Light

If you have ever been a woman over the age of 30 who stayed in a budget motel, you know the horror of awakening in a dark room, switching on the bathroom lights and screaming at the shriveled-up she-witch you find hiding there.

And you know the feeling of disappointment that blooms in the pit of your stomach as you realize the shriveled-up she-witch is your own reflection staring back at you beneath the merciless glare of overhead fluorescent lighting. You may also know the relief of visiting a nice restaurant after dark and catching sight of yourself in the mirror. You lean forward, mesmerized by how different — how matte! How smooth! — the contours of your face look in what we call “forgiving light.” But this turn of phrase is simply not correct. It is not light, and it does not forgive. It is darkness, and it merely conceals.

But it feels so much better, doesn't it? Salvation can feel like condemnation, when being lost is all you know. Sometimes it is so much more comfortable to live lost in the shadows.

It is possible to yearn for darkness. Darkness gives cover to so many things. The light has a harshness that can almost seem demanding, exposing. Light can bleach. Light can burn.

“Is this really me?” you think in that budget hotel bathroom, examining acne scars you never saw before and crow's feet that seem to have developed overnight. The answer is yes. Yes, that is really you, all of it, every inch. There's nothing to be afraid of, just step into the light and own it.

“And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil.” — John 3:19

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## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday March 9, 2024

5:00PM †Maria Benevides  
 Req. Mai Tran  
 6:30PM †Souls in Purgatory

### Sunday March 10, 2024

7:30AM Parishioners  
 9:00AM †Maureen Klappholz  
 Req. Bob Beaulieu  
 10:30AM †Angelo Torrens, 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary  
 Req. Wife, Lydia Torrens  
 12:30PM Isoline Litchmore & Family

### Monday March 11, 2024

8:00AM Gary Garay, Pancrasio Garay &  
 Marck David Molina  
 Req. Family

### Tuesday March 12, 2024

8:00AM †Souls in Purgatory  
 Req. Parishioner

### Wednesday March 13, 2024

8:00AM †Angel O. Morales  
 Req. Ileana Rivera

### Thursday March 14, 2024

8:00AM †Tracy Leinmann  
 Req. Tammy & Brooke

### Friday March 15, 2024

8:00AM †Justa Justina Zalla Bazan, †Alejandro  
 Ruiz Gozalez & Souls in Purgatory

### Saturday March 16, 2024

8:00AM Living & Deceased Members of  
 Josephine & John Gallucci Family &  
 Their Lineal Descendants  
 5:00PM †Edward Miller  
 Req. Janet Collins  
 6:30PM †Filomena Inarelli  
 Req. Sandy & Family

### Sunday March 17, 2024

7:30AM Parishioners  
 9:00AM †Joanie Walls Sloyer  
 Req. Sandi & Gary Jones  
 10:30AM †Esteban Edwards  
 Req. Alba  
 12:30PM †Josephine  
 Req. Niece

The Diocesan Marriage Dialogue Retreat will be on April 26th, 27th & 28th in Lake Placid. Please contact the parish office for more information.

### SANCTUARY CANDLE

The sanctuary candle has been donated this week in loving memory of **Edward Rosenstein & James Dulaney** requested by **Dr. Thomas Gaetano Palumbo**.

### CHAPEL CANDLE

The chapel candle has been donated this week in loving memory of **Edward Rosenstein & James Dulaney** requested by **Dr. Thomas Gaetano Palumbo**.



The Diocesan Spanish Marriage Dialogue In-Depth #1 will be held on April 6th & 7th at Sacred Heart Parish in Bradenton. Please call the parish office for more information.



There will be a Holy Hour on the 1st Wednesday of each month in English from 7PM-8PM.

On the 3rd Wednesday of each month The Holy Hour will be in Spanish from 7PM-8PM.

**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.**



### Every Friday at St. Raphael Parish Hall

Doors open at 3PM. Games start promptly at 6PM.  
 For more information call  
 Jose (239) 841-3803 or  
 Bill (315) 569-3009

*The Jay Carano Gift Shop* is open from 3:30PM-5PM on Saturday and after the 5PM Mass. On Sundays from 8AM-2PM . 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

## 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

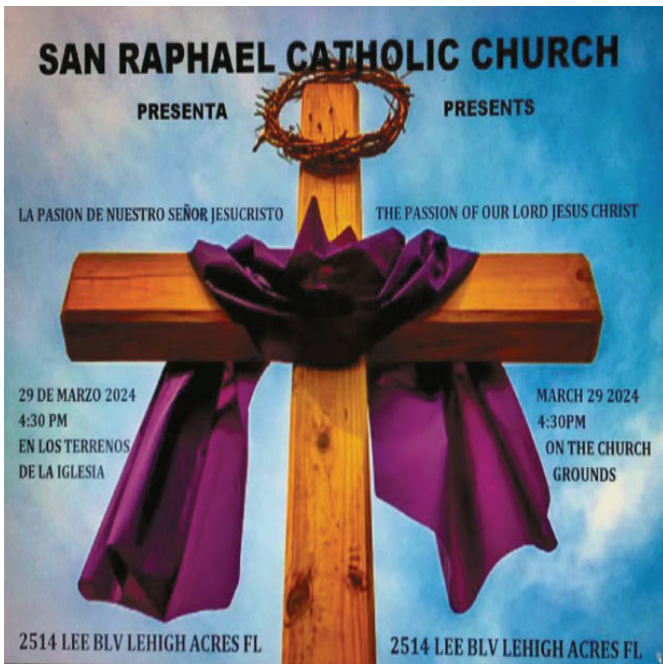
## A PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS

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 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.**

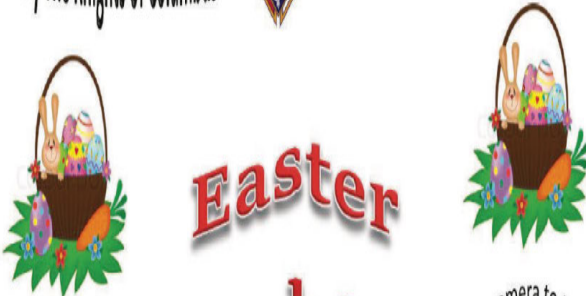


The **Catholic Faith Appeal (CFA)** contributes to the pastoral, education, and charitable support of those in need in the Diocese of Venice. Our parish also benefits from the CFA if we exceed our goal of \$145,000.00. **Join those in our parish family who have made a gift to the 2024 CFA.** Your gift 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.**

# Join the Easter Celebration

By The Knights of Columbus at Saint Raphael's Catholic Church



# Easter Breakfast


## March 31, 2024

Breakfast will be served after  
7:30, 9:00 & 10:30 am MASS  
BREAKFAST IS FREE

ANY DONATION GIVEN WILL GO TOWARDS THE CFA 2024


Please bring your baskets Egg Hunt is free for the kids which will begin at 10:00am








## Eucharistic Conference

March 16, 2024



**Steven Ray, Keynote Speaker**  
English and Spanish Sessions!  
Bishop Verot High School  
5598 Sunrise Drive  
Fort Myers, Florida  
QR Code to register!  
For more information contact:  
Jim Gontis, 941-486-4754  
gontis@dioceseofvenice.org

**Bishop Frank J. Dewane**



February 24th & 25th \$10,766.50  
Attendance: 2,137

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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