



ST. RAPHAEL

— CATHOLIC CHURCH —

MARCH 16, 2025 | THE SECOND 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)

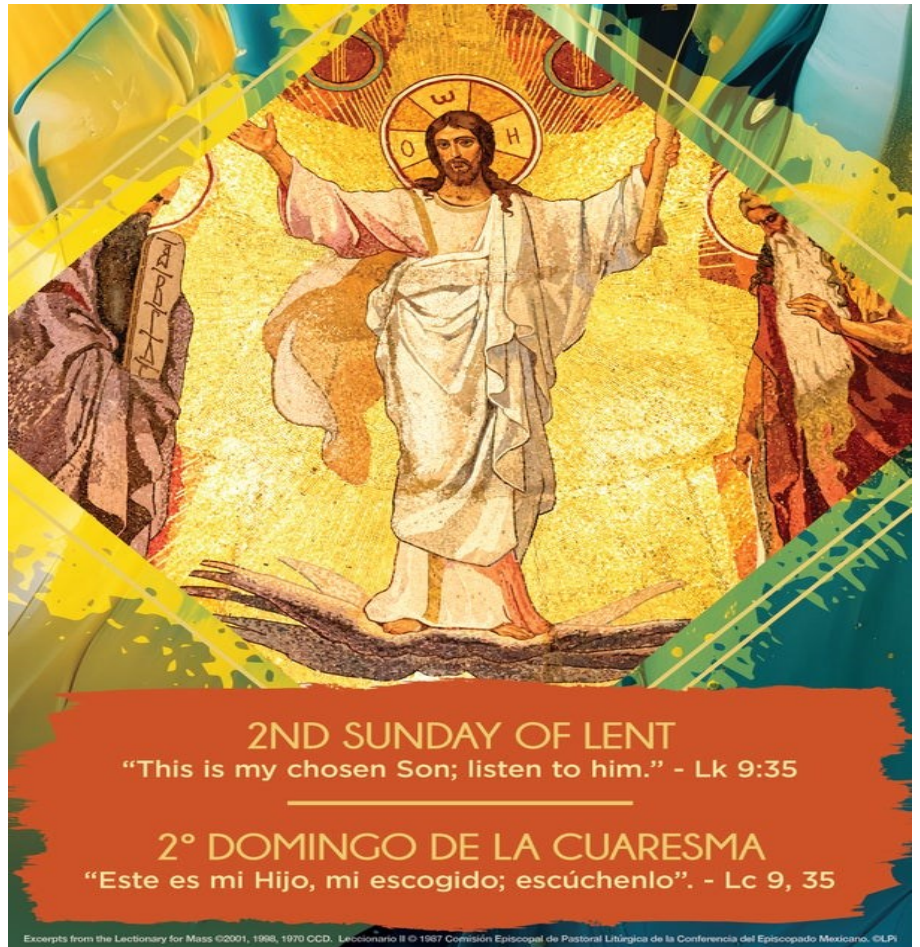
Sunday 7:30AM, 9:00AM, 12:30PM
(English)
10:30AM & 5:30PM (Español)

CONFESSIONS

Wednesday | 6:00PM-7:00PM
Saturday | 4:00PM-4:45PM
Sunday | 5:00PM-5:30PM (Español)

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Michal Szyszka, *Pastor*
Rev. Rodolfo French, *Parochial Vicar*
Andy Mora,
Coordinator of Religious Education



2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

"This is my chosen Son; listen to him." - Lk 9:35

2º DOMINGO DE LA CUARESMA

"Este es mi Hijo, mi escogido; escúchenlo". - Lc 9, 35

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1988, 1970 CCD. Leccionario II © 1987 Conferencia Episcopal de Pastoral Litúrgica de la Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano. CILPI

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 5:30PM – 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@saintraphaelcccla.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 - Meets the 1st Thursday of the month at 7PM in the school building. Call George at 315-794-5452 for more information.

Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary - 1st Thursday of the month 7:00-8:30PM in the school building. For information call Nancy at 636-208-8806.

Spanish Knights of Columbus- Meets the 2nd Saturday at 10AM in the school building.

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 6-8PM. For more information call 491-6719.

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

Marriage Dialogue & Follow Up (MDS) Friday at 7:30PM in the school building. For all couples in Spanish. For more information call Braulio & Lupita 239-529-0974



Celebrating the Jubilee Year

WHAT IS THE JUBILEE?

Pope Francis has designated 2025 as a Holy Jubilee Year. The Holy Father asks us to renew ourselves as "Pilgrims of Hope," carrying hope in our hearts, and bringing hope to others. There are many ways to participate in the Jubilee Year, including right here in the Diocese of Venice!

Epiphany Cathedral
310 Sarasota Street
Venice

St. John XXIII Parish
13060 Palomino Lane
Fort Myers

St. Paul Parish
1330 East Oak Street
Arcadia

St. John the Evangelist Parish
625 11th Avenue North
Naples

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center
3989 South Moon Drive
Venice

Bishop Frank J. Dewane has designated 5 Jubilee Pilgrimage Sites in the Diocese of Venice

HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE IN THE JUBILEE?

Catholics in Southwest Florida can celebrate and participate in the Jubilee by engaging in local Jubilee activities right here in the Diocese of Venice, or making a special pilgrimage to Rome or designated shrine in the United States.

By visiting one of the Pilgrimage Sites in the Diocese and participating in its offerings of Mass, Adoration, Confession, or other activities, one can celebrate the Jubilee, and gain the Jubilee Indulgence.

A variety of other special Jubilee celebration opportunities will be offered throughout the year, which will be regularly updated at dioceseofvenice.org/jubilee

DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA



Eucharistic Conference

Becoming Eucharistic Missionaries

March 29, 2025





Bishop Frank Dewane



Dr. Scott Hahn



Mrs. Mary Ann Wiesinger-Puig



Mrs. Kimberly Hahn



Mr. Andrés Arango

Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center
Punta Gorda, FL

To Register: <https://dioceseofvenice.regfox.com/eucharistic-conference>
For information contact Jim Gontis at: gontis@dioceseofvenice.org
941-486-4754

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday March 15, 2025

5:00PM †Members of Knowles & Mercurio Families
 Req. Family
 6:30PM †Lukenn Sabellano
 Req. Parishioner

Sunday March 16, 2025

7:30AM Living & Deceased Members of Levasseur & Frechette Families
 Req. M.J. Levasseur
 9:00AM Parishioners
 10:30AM Ramona Gonzales
 Req. Parishioner
 12:30PM Megan & Tanner Spencer
 Req. Tammy & Brooke
 5:30PM Protection of Life to Save the Unborn
 Req. Parishioner

Monday March 17, 2025

8:00AM †Souls in Purgatory
 Req. Parishioner

Tuesday March 18, 2025

8:00AM Conversion of Sinners
 Req. Parishioner

Wednesday March 19, 2025

8:00AM Pancrasio Garay
 Req. Parishioner

Thursday March 20, 2025

8:00AM †John & †Dotty Bress
 Req. Bress Family

Friday March 21, 2025

8:00AM Isoline Litchmore & Family

Saturday March 22, 2025

8:00AM †Josef Mummert
 Req. Bernhard & Franziska Mummert
 5:00PM Jane Kuchta
 Req. Teresa Caswell
 6:30PM Protection of Life- Unborn

Sunday March 23, 2025

7:30AM Juliann Wilson & Family
 Req. Family
 9:00AM †Steven Verstraete
 Req. Mai Tran
 10:30AM †Felix Juan Andres
 Req. Daughter, Carmen Juan Andres
 12:30PM Parishioners
 5:30PM Souls in Purgatory
 Req. Parishioner



Will you not spend one hour with me?

“The Church draws her life from the Eucharist. This truth does not simply express a daily experience of faith, but recapitulates the heart of the mystery of the Church. In a variety of ways she joyfully experiences the constant fulfillment of the promise: “Lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age” (Mt 28:20), but in the Holy Eucharist, through the changing of bread and wine into the body and blood of the Lord, she rejoices in this presence with unique intensity. Ever since Pentecost, when the Church, the People of the New Covenant, began her pilgrim journey towards her heavenly homeland, the Divine Sacrament has continued to mark the passing of her days, filling them with confident hope. —Missionaries of the Blessed Sacrament, June 2003 Newsletter

The Community Pregnancy Center offers confidential and compassionate care for women facing unintended pregnancies. Services include: pregnancy testing, medical ultrasounds and other community resources. **The mobile onsite clinic** will be at St. Raphael Parish (in the parking lot near Lee Blvd) every Wednesday from 11AM - 3PM. Walk in patients are welcome. Spanish and English speaking staff are available.

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 941-412-5860 or e-mail project.rachel@dioceseofvenice.org for help.



There will be a Holy Hour on the 2nd 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.

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.



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

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

Our Lord told St. Gertrude the Great that the following prayer would release 1,000 souls from Purgatory each time it is said:

“Eternal Father, I offer Thee the most precious blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.” Approval and Recommendation (sqd.) M. Cardinal Pahiarcia, Lisbon, Portugal, March 4, 1936

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.**



Dr. Tim Gray
Presents
***Lent as a Model for the
Spiritual Life***

**Thursday, March 20, 2025
6:00 PM**

**St. John XXIII Catholic
Church**

Parish Life Center
13060 Palomino Lane,
Fort Myers, FL 33912

\$25.00 Per Person

Includes wine, beer &
heavy appetizers.

**Guest will receive a free gift,
provided by Augustine Insti-
tute and a special pre-event
worship opportunity.**

*President of the
Augustine Institute
and a well-known
Catholic speaker
and author.*

hosted by Faith & Ale/Faith & Wine Lee County

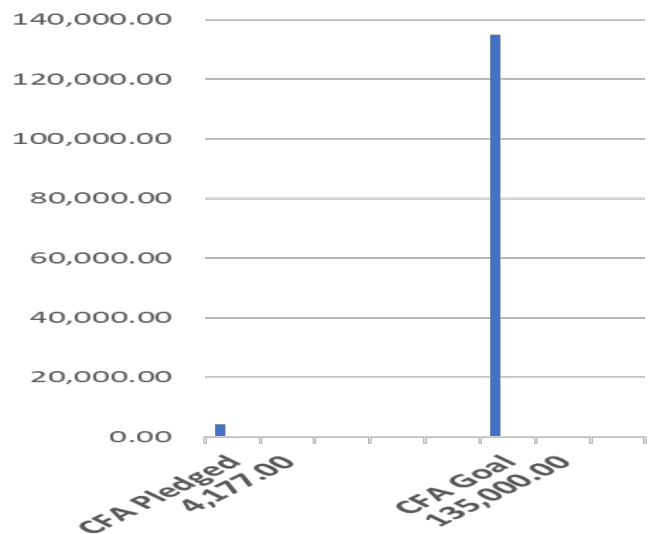
**Tickets not available at the
door. For more info and to
Register Online go to
www.faithandale.com
or Scan the QR Code**



Registration is the official way we join a parish community. Many people think that because they attend a particular parish they automatically belong. At times, young adults who have moved away for years think they are still signed up under their parents. But membership requires signing up, formally enrolling yourself in a parish. Registration is a commitment to a community, a way to be included in the religious, social, and ministerial activities of your parish. Registration shows you belong. It is also necessary for certain benefits, like scheduling sacraments, obtaining sponsor certificates, and getting donation statements for taxes. Most importantly, it lets the parish count on you, to call on you to assist in its mission. Registering in your parish is a statement of faith & confidence in the life and work of your parish.

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 \$135,000.00. ***Join those in our parish family who have made a gift to the 2025 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.**



February 22nd & 23rd \$21,182.00
Attendance: 2,350

The Sunday Mass on Television is an outreach of the Diocese of Venice Department of Communications and is supported by the donations of viewers. This outreach serves those who, for reasons outside of their control, are unable to attend Sunday Mass in one of the parishes of the Diocese. For many homebound individuals, this outreach reminds them that they are loved by their brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the Diocese of Venice, and that they remain a vibrant and loved part of our faith community.

For those who are interested in viewing the televised Mass you may find it on WFTX-TV FOX 4– Sundays at 10:30AM.