



ST. RAPHAEL

— CATHOLIC CHURCH —

MARCH 2, 2025 | THE EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



CONTACT US

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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



8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"A good tree does not bear rotten fruit."

- Lk 6:43

8º DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

"No hay árbol bueno que produzca frutos malos".

- Lc 6, 43

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1975 CCC. Leccionario II © 1987 Comisión Episcopal de Pastoral Litúrgica de la Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano. CELPM

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

Ash Wednesday

Good stewards realize they really don't own anything. It all belongs to God. It is not so much that God owns them, but they are not ours because we are called to offer them to him.

The reality is that you and I were born naked and with nothing. We will die naked and with nothing. If we really could possess something material, there would be a way to take it with us. But alas, it all slips through our grasp and passes away. And even though all of us came from dust and to dust we will return, through Jesus Christ we will live forever in a perfect state. The only thing we can take with us? Our hearts and whether or not we loved.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday March 1, 2025

5:00PM Parishioners
6:30PM †Juan Osorio,
11th Anniversary
Req. Elizabeth Osorio

Sunday March 2, 2025

7:30AM †Augusto Go
Req. Parishioner
9:00AM †Olga Quintana
Req. Husband, Manny
10:30AM Protection of the Unborn
12:30PM Living & Deceased Members of
Josephine & John Gallucci Family &
their lineal descendants
5:30PM MDS, Soul in Purgatory & Aguiar
Family

Monday March 3, 2025

8:00AM †Tom Ryan
Req. Sister, Rosemary

Tuesday March 4, 2025

8:00AM Pancrasio Garay & Family
Req. Parishioner

Wednesday March 5, 2025

8:00AM Parishioners
12:00PM †Stephen LaScala
Req. Friend
5:30PM †Mary Stitzer & Louis
D'Addona & Josephine Grecco
Req. Family
7:30PM †Resurrection Escario
Req. Parishioner

Thursday March 6, 2025

8:00AM Protection of Life for the Unborn
Req. Parishioner

Friday March 7, 2025

8:00AM †Souls in Purgatory
Req. Parishioner

Saturday March 8, 2025

8:00AM †Jen-Yves Potvin
Req. France & Al Mansur
5:00PM †Angelo M. Torrens
Req. Wife, Lydia Torrens & Family
6:30PM †Felix Juan Andres
Req. Wife, Teresa Jose De Juan

Sunday March 9, 2025

7:30AM Parishioners
9:00AM †Marlene Aprea
Req. Husband, Antonio Aprea
10:30AM Ami Hall & Family

SANCTUARY CANDLE

The sanctuary candle has been donated this week in loving memory of **Angelo M. Torrens** requested by his **Wife, Lydia & Family**.

CHAPEL CANDLE

The chapel candle has been donated this week in loving memory of **Angelo M. Torrens** requested by his **Wife, Lydia & Family**.

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.

“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>.

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

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

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.**

Lenten Regulations

Promulgated by Bishop Frank J. Dewane

All Christ's faithful are obliged by divine law, each in his or her own way, to do penance. However, so that all may be joined together in a certain common practice of penance, days of penance are prescribed. On these days, the faithful are in a special manner to devote themselves to prayer. To engage in works of piety and charity, to fulfill their obligations more faithfully and to deny themselves especially by observing fast and abstinence according to the laws of the Church. The following are Lenten penitential regulations issued for the Diocese of Venice in Florida.

· **Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fast.** On days of fast, one full meal and two lesser meals are allowed. Eating between meals is not permitted and Catholics who have completed their 18th year are bound by this law until the beginning of their 60th year.

· **Ash Wednesday and All of the Fridays of Lent are also days of Abstinence.** On days of abstinence, meat may not be taken. The law of abstinence binds all Catholics who have completed their 14th year.

All of the faithful are obliged to do penance, but not all may be able to observe the above regulations of fast and abstinence because of ill health or other reasons. Persons legitimately excused from the laws of fast and abstinence are urged to practice other forms of penance and self denial suitable to their condition. In addition, the faithful are urged to participate, if possible, in holy Mass during the week, in the Sacrament of Penance, Lenten devotions, family prayer, Scripture reading and sharing of their time and resources with the less fortunate.

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Could you walk a mile in Jesus' shoes? The Stations of the Cross bring us closer to Christ as we meditate on the great love He showed for us in His most sorrowful Passion!

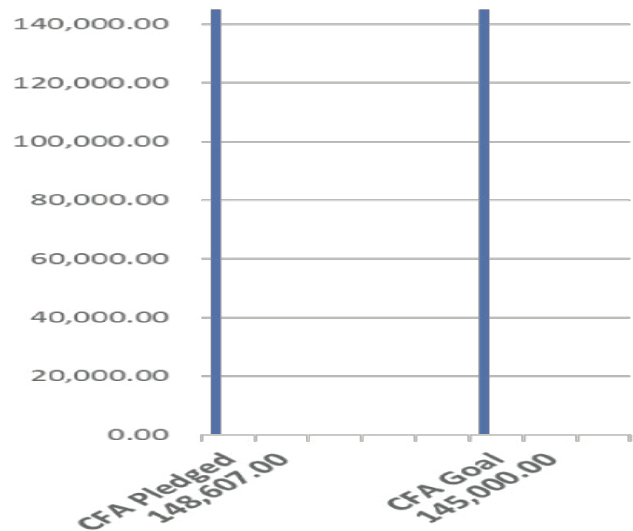
You can pray the Stations of the Cross (also known as the way of the cross) alone at any time, but people most often pray them in a group setting Friday nights during Lent.

Tradition traces this most loving tribute to our Lord back to the Blessed Mother's retracing her Son's last steps along what became known as Via Dolorosa (the Sorrowful Way) on His way to His Crucifixion at Calvary in Jerusalem.

Stations of the Cross will be Friday Evenings during Lent at 7PM in English and 8PM in Spanish.

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 8th & 9th \$11,521.00
Attendance: 2,691

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.

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