



ST. RAPHAEL

— CATHOLIC CHURCH —

FEBRUARY 22, 2026 | FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



CONTACT US

2514 Lee Boulevard
Lehigh Acres, FL 33971

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Religious Education (239) 369-6424

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parishoffice@saintraphaelccla.org

www.saintraphaelcc.org

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

Saturday | 3:30PM-4:45PM

Saturday | 6:00PM-6:30PM (Español)

Sunday | 5:00PM-5:30PM (Español)

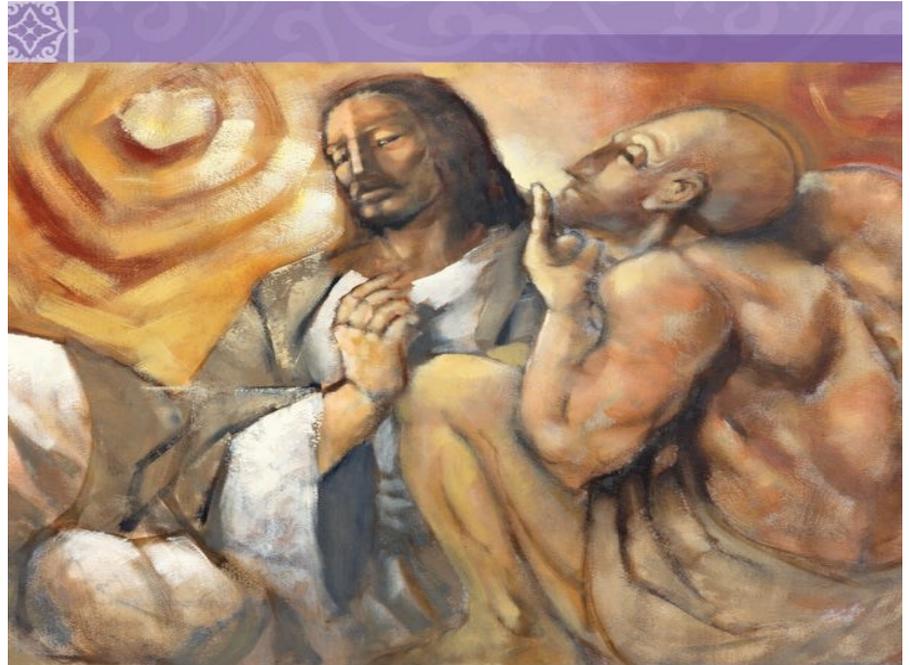
PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Michal Szyszka, *Pastor*

Rev. Rodolfo French, *Parochial Vicar*

Andy Mora,

Coordinator of Religious Education



1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

"The tempter approached and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread.' He said in reply, 'It is written: One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.'" Mt 4: 1-4

"El tentador se acercó y le dijo: 'Si eres Hijo de Dios, manda que estas piedras se conviertan en panes'. Jesús le respondió: 'Está escrito: No sólo de pan vive el hombre, sino de toda palabra que sale de la boca de Dios' ". Mt 4,1-4

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
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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 2:00PM-4:00PM 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 - 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 Monday at 7:00PM in parish hall.

Haitian Prayer Group - meets Thursdays in the school building 4-6PM. Haitian Mass is the 3rd Sunday each month at 7:00PM.

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

Marriage Dialogue & Follow Up (MDS) Friday at 7:30PM in school building. For all couples in Spanish. For information call Diego & Carolina Diaz 571-247-4956

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.

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday February 21, 2026

5:00PM Parishioners
 6:30PM †Felix Juan Andres
 Req. Wife, Teresa Jose De Juan

Sunday February 22, 2026

7:30AM †Charles Caswell
 Req. Sharon
 9:00AM Emma Jones & Family
 Req. Tammy & Brooke
 10:30AM Aguiar Family
 12:30PM †James E. Handleton & Dolores Handleton
 Req. Wife, Dolores
 5:30PM Phillip Wong
 Req. Parishioner

Monday February 23, 2026

8:00AM †Frances Franca
 Req. Paul Clark

Tuesday February 24, 2026

8:00AM Living & Deceased Members of the Ryan & Whipple Families
 Req. Rosemary Whipple

Wednesday February 25, 2026

8:00AM Bonnie Rogers
 Req. Ericka

Thursday February 26, 2026

8:00AM †Thomas & †Maureen Klappholz
 Req. Daughter

Friday February 27, 2026

8:00AM †Deceased Parishioners

Saturday February 28, 2026

8:00AM †Salvatore & †Louise D'Adonna & Alan Blum
 Req. Family
 5:00PM Ariane Gotoy
 Req. Grandmother
 6:30PM Parishioners

Sunday March 1, 2026

7:30AM †Maggie Valdes Rodriguez
 Req. Donna & David Cook
 9:00AM Nancy Stabenow
 Req. Janet Collins
 10:30AM †Juan Osorio & †Misael Osorio
 Req. Elizabeth Osorio
 12:30PM †Rosa Rodriguez
 Req. Ganddaughter
 5:30PM Conversion of Sinners

SANCTUARY CANDLE

The sanctuary candle has been donated this week for the **Aguiar Family**

CHAPEL CANDLE

The chapel candle has been donated this week for the **Aguiar Family**

St. Raphael's Parish is blessed to have an *Adoration Chapel open 7 days a week, from 7:00AM-4:30PM.*

Many people come for 2 minutes to several hours to pray with Our Lord and this is a great blessing.

We also have people who have made a commitment to stay for a specific hour each day or week. Each of these people is a link in a chain of continuous love and adoration that surrounds Our Lord each day.

The combination of these two groups means that it is very rare for Our Lord to be alone during the day.

In order to make sure that He is never alone, if you are interested in making a specific commitment of a specific hour each day or week, please fill out the form below and place it in the offertory basket at Mass.

For more information or to sign up please contact us at SaintRaphaelchapel@gmail.com

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.

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.

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.

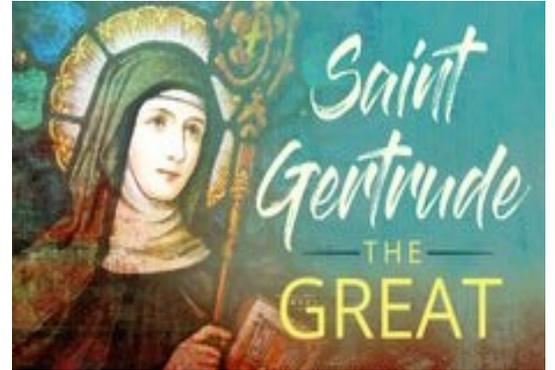
For more information call Jose (239) 841-3803 or Bill (315) 569-3009

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!



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 Pahiarca, Lisbon, Portugal, March 4, 1936

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 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.

EASTER SCHEDULE

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross are held every Friday during
Lent 7:00 PM in English &
8:00 PM in Spanish

BILINGUAL LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE

Monday, March 30th 5:30 PM

HOLY WEEK

Holy Thursday, April 2nd

Mass of The Lord's Supper – 7:00 PM (Bilingual)

Good Friday, April 3rd

The Passion of the Lord – 3:00 PM (Bilingual)

Stations of the Cross - 7:00 PM in English &
8:00P M in Spanish

Holy Saturday, April 4th

Blessing of the Food – 11:00 AM
(English & Polish)

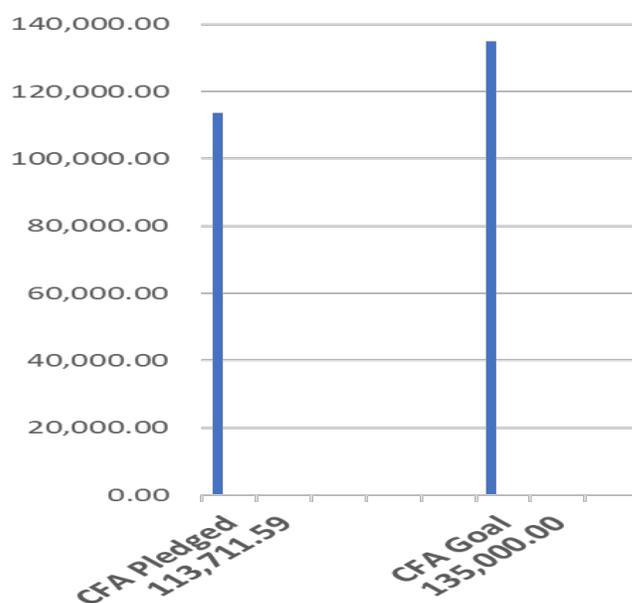
Easter Vigil Mass - 8:15PM Bilingual

EASTER SUNDAY – APRIL 5th

Masses: 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM & 12:30PM in English
10:30 AM & 5:30 PM Mass 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 \$145,000.00. **Join those in our parish family who have made a gift to the 2026 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 7th & 8th \$12,348.00
Attendance: 2,371

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.

DAN & STEPHANIE BURKE

COO - EWTN, CO-HOSTS, DIVINE INTIMACY RADIO PROGRAM.

Faith & Ale is a monthly gathering of Catholic men. Join us at St. John XXIII Catholic Church in Fort Myers for our Joint Event with Faith & Wine Lee County on March 19th. This event will sell out.

“Spiritual Warfare and the Discernment of Spirits”

We invite you to register for this event and see our season's lineup on our website www.faihandale.com/register/. Review the details of this event below:

• Start time 6:30pm, doors open at 6pm.

• St. John XXIII Catholic Church

13060 Palomino Lane

Fort Myers, FL 33912

• \$25 Suggested Donation (appetizers & refreshments)

• Register www.faihandale.com

Dan is past President & COO of EWTN's worldwide news network. He and his wife host the Divine Intimacy Radio show which is broadcast weekly on EWTN Radio.

