



# ST. RAPHAEL

## — CATHOLIC CHURCH —

**FEBRUARY 2, 2025 | THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**



### CONTACT US

2514 Lee Boulevard  
Lehigh Acres, FL 33971

Phone (239) 369-1831

Religious Education (239) 369-6424

Fax (239) 369-1039

[parishoffice@saintraphaelcc.org](mailto:parishoffice@saintraphaelcc.org)

[www.saintraphaelcc.net](http://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)

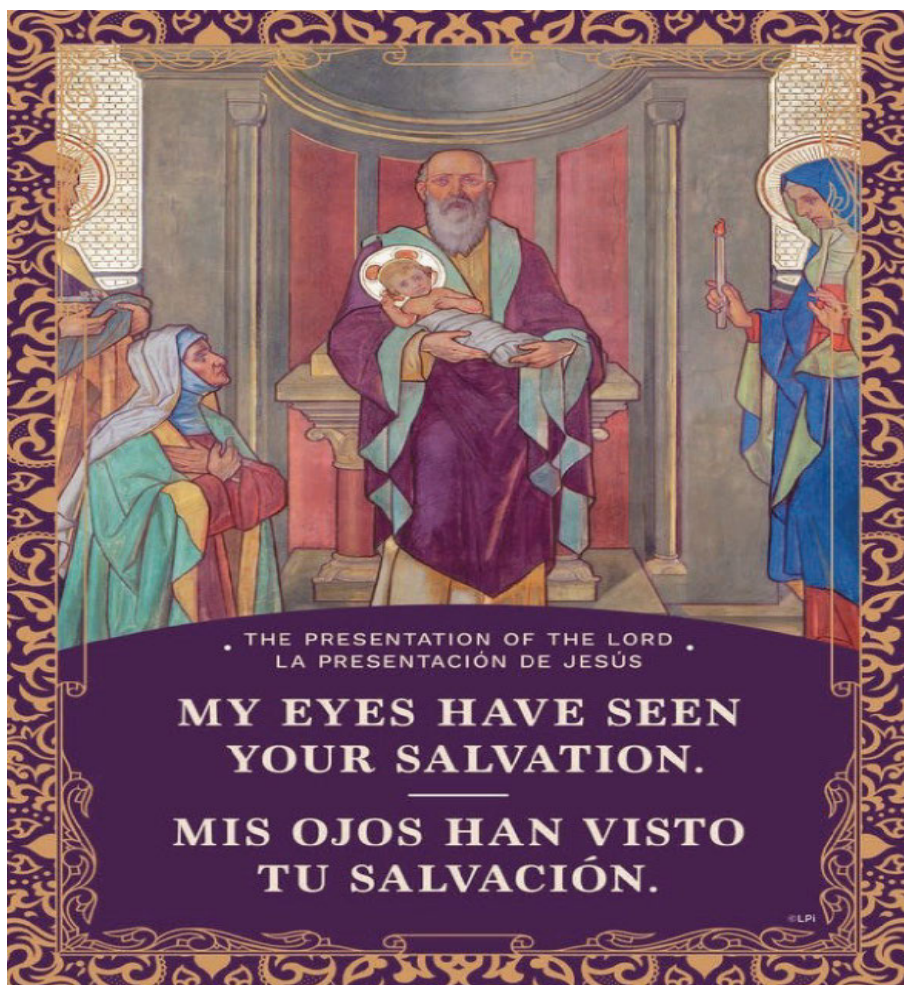
### PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Michal Szyszka, *Pastor*

Rev. Rodolfo French, *Parochial Vicar*

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 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 of each month 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

### EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

#### Healing Our Blindness

The value of stewardship living is difficult to see unless we are experiencing that way of life for ourselves. You can read 100 Everyday Stewardship reflections and go to church every Sunday, but unless you are actively growing in faith and trying to live a life of generous stewardship, you cannot see the power of such a lifestyle. Like most things, we need direct, purposeful experiences to really understand.

I worked in a stewardship parish for over 20 years, but it was only after I started treating all I have as God's, and began to actively offer all I am to Him for His glory, that I really got the message. That doesn't mean I am a perfect steward. Far from it! However, the stress and anxiety that comes with life has greatly diminished because all is in God's hands. I choose to act more generously than before, which provides me with a sense of fulfillment and joy. How I act towards my family, friends, and even people I meet daily has changed. Now I am more mindful of their presence, and I seek to give them a part of me that just might change their day and bring them a little closer to Christ. I am transforming into a disciple who seeks to use all I have been given to transform all that is around me.

It would be a shame to be blind to the important things for an entire life. Today, consider taking a path of life-changing stewardship. Give it all to God. In the midst of all you have been given, you just might find God in a profound way. You may even find the real person God created you to be.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday February 1, 2025

5:00PM Parishioners  
6:30PM †Ramon Oquely Mendez Antunez  
Req. Family

### Sunday February 2, 2025

7:30AM Thanksgiving – 3 Saints  
Req. Philomene Bazile  
9:00AM †Eleanor Dyer  
Req. Barbara Hartnett  
10:30AM †Felix Juan Andres  
Req. Wife, Teresa Jose de Juan  
12:30PM Delores Handleton  
Req. Tammy & Brooke  
5:30PM MDS, Soul in Purgatory &  
Aguiar Family

### Monday February 3, 2025

8:00AM †Juliet Garay  
Req. Parishioner

### Tuesday February 4, 2025

8:00AM †Marcella Knowles  
Req. Family

### Wednesday February 5, 2025

8:00AM People with no one to pray for them  
Req. Parishioner

### Thursday February 6, 2025

8:00AM Kenneth & Marifa Galang & Family  
Req. Parishioner

### Friday February 7, 2025

8:00AM †Souls in Purgatory  
Req. Parishioner

### Saturday February 8, 2025

8:00AM Save the Unborn  
Req. Parishioner  
5:00PM †Otis Jennings  
Req. Family  
6:30PM Conversion of Sinners

### Sunday February 9, 2025

7:30AM Parishioners  
9:00AM †Mary Goytia  
Req. Carmen Padilla  
10:30AM Nora & Family  
Req. Parishioner  
12:30PM †Ruby Sylvester  
Req. Joseph House  
5:30PM †Julian Quintanilla

**Retrouvaille**, hope for troubled marriages, call 1-800-470-2230 or visit [www.HelpOurMarriage.com](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com).

## 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 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 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](mailto: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.**

**COUPLES WEDDING  
ANNIVERSARY MASS**  
**February 1 and March 8, 2025**

All couples celebrating 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, or more than 50 years of marriage are invited by Bishop Frank J. Dewane to an Anniversary Mass in their honor. The Anniversary Masses will be celebrated on March 8th at St. Thomas More Parish in Sarasota, at 11am. **Please contact your local parish office for reservations no later than one week before the event.**



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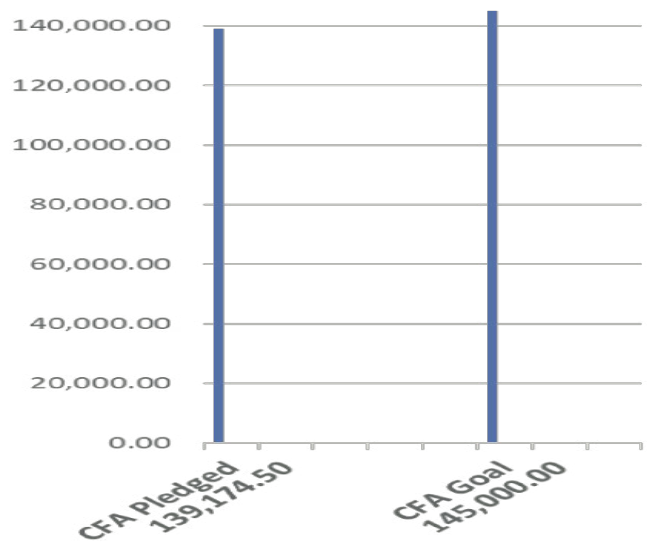
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The **Catholic Faith Appeal (CFA)** contributes to the pastoral, education, and charitable support of those in need in the Diocese of Venice. Our parish also benefits from the CFA if we exceed our goal of \$145,000.00. ***Join those in our parish family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



January 11th & 12th \$13,926.50  
Attendance: 2,163

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.

**Faith & Wine**  
**Lee County**



**Barbara**

**How to Win a Catholic:  
How a Protestant Minister  
came into the  
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Thursday—February 20, 2025

6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

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