



ST. RAPHAEL

— CATHOLIC CHURCH —

AUGUST 23 2026 | TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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
christian.chami@saintraphaelccla.org
www.saintraphaelcc.org

MASS TIMES

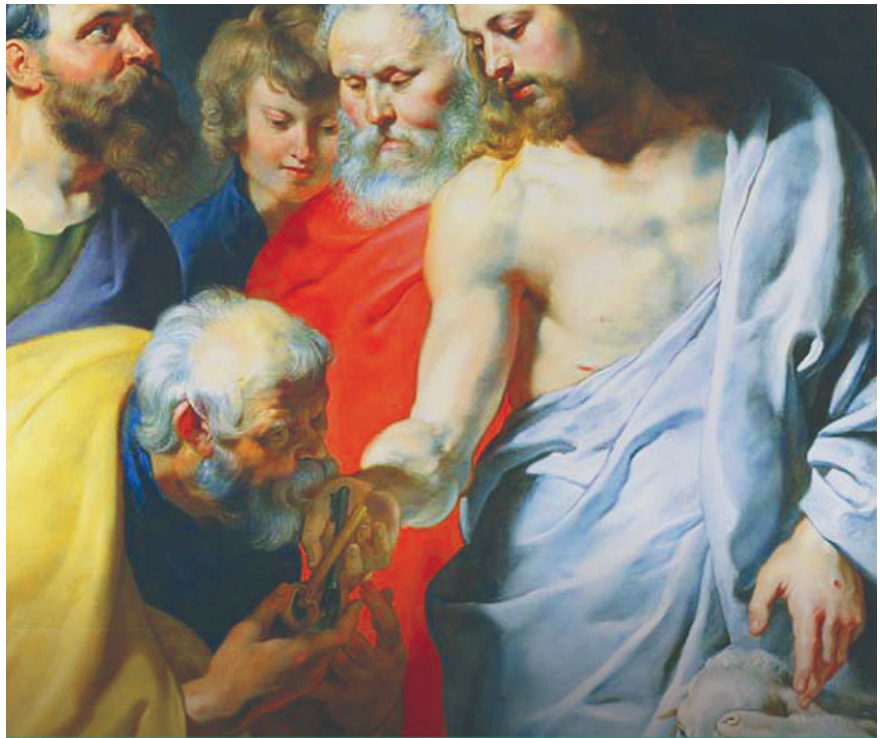
Monday - Friday | 8:00AM (Eng)
Saturday | 5:00PM (Eng) 6:30PM (Esp)
Sunday 8:30 AM | 12:30PM (Eng)
10:30AM & 5:30PM (Esp)

CONFESSIONS

Saturday | 3:30PM-4:45PM

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Christian Chami, *Parish Administrator*
Rev. Rodolfo French, *Parochial Vicar*
Andy Mora, *Religious Education*



21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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 suffering 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.

OCIA (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.

Youth Group has a day and time change! Youth Group will now meet on Wednesday at 6:30PM to 8:30PM in the school building, starting August 29th.

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

Virtues, Explained!

Wisdom

It may seem unusual, at first, to say that wisdom is a virtue — Well, that depends on what we actually mean when we talk about “wisdom.” Wisdom is not mere scholarliness. It is more than being smart. They say that wisdom comes with experience, and it does — but only if you accept it.

Wisdom, St. Thomas Aquinas wrote, is a gift of the Holy Spirit born of charity and originating in the human will. But it is also connected to the intellect, because the intellect is where we discern between right and wrong based on all we have been taught and all we have experienced (Sum. II-II, 45, Art. 2).

Therefore, we must ask the Holy Spirit for wisdom, and we must make ourselves ready to receive it — remembering always that we cannot recognize it alone.

Upcoming New Confession Schedule

Beginning
September 1, 2026

Wednesday: 6-7 PM
Saturday: 9-10 AM

English & Spanish

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday August 22, 2026

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

Sunday August 23, 2026

8:30AM †Abraham Cruz
Req. Sandra Cauffman
10:30AM Priests
Req. Parishioner
12:30PM Parishioners
5:30PM †Pedro Barcnas
Req. Patricia Rios

Monday August 24, 2026

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

Tuesday August 25, 2026

8:00AM Natacha Berdnarczyk
Req. Mireille Chemally

Wednesday August 26, 2026

8:00AM Conversion of Sinners
Req. Parishioner

Thursday August 27, 2026

8:00AM †Amelia DeFeo, 35th Anniversary
Req. Tice Family

Friday August 28, 2026

8:00AM †Deceased Parishioners

Saturday August 29, 2026

5:00PM †Olga Quintana
Req. Husband, Manny Quintana
6:30PM Leila Pineiro
Req. Mom

Sunday August 30, 2026

8:30AM †Jose Abel Martinez
Req. Mother, Guadalupe Aguayo
10:30AM Conversion of Sinners
Req. Parishioner
12:30PM †Ted Prillwitz
Req. Tammy Calhoun
5:30PM Parishioners

SANCTUARY CANDLE

The Sanctuary candle has been donated this week for **Edward Rosenstein & James Dulaney** requested by **Dr. Thomas Gaetano Palumbo**.

CHAPEL CANDLE

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



Hi, it's me, your spiritually adopted baby. I gained another ¼ pound this 22nd week! That is a 25% weight gain! Still I have very little body fat but am well proportioned. My skin is still quite thin and fragile. The most rapid growth taking place right now is in my brain.

I know I just shared this Bible verse last week, but it is one of my favorites. **“Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a real blessing.” –Psalm 127:3** That always makes me feel so good! I love being one of God's children- our God is so awesome!!!

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!



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, their children, and 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.

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 Pahiarcá,
Lisbon, Portugal, March 4, 1936

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.**



St. Raphael's Parish is blessed to have an Adoration Chapel.

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.

Know a Young Person with a Drug Problem?

Maybe you know of a young friend, neighbor or classmate who suffers from drug addiction and does not know where to turn for help. Drug Addicts Anonymous believes all individuals suffering from addiction have a right to access recovery, be self-sufficient and independent. Yet, today many young people affected by drug addiction are deprived of a sense of self worth because they cannot pay for proper treatment or access recovery resources and support. DAA provides an opportunity for long term recovery and positive change through a no cost service. Based on a 12-step program, the focus is on the physical, mental and spiritual condition as a whole person; contributing to the individual's social reintegration in a dignified and efficient way.

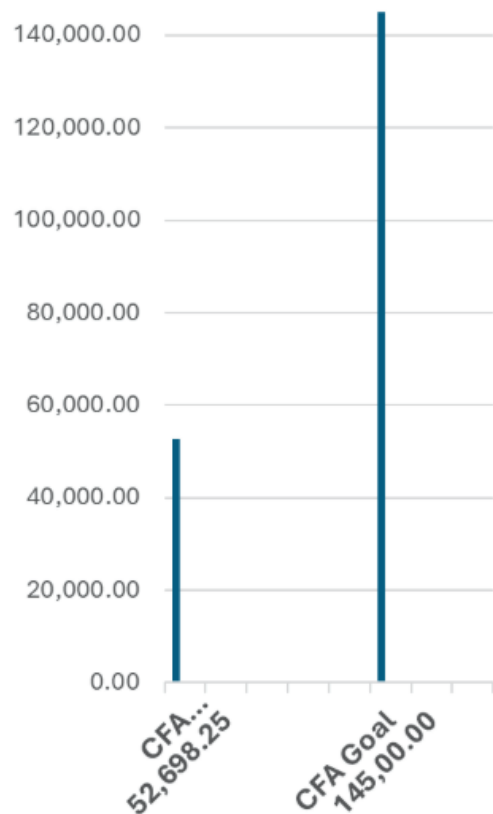
For program information and services available, please call 561-420-0930 or visit www.daamerica.org

The Ministry of Praying Fathers and Mothers pertaining to St. Raphael Parish, is a group of parents and family that meet at least once a month to pray and intercede for their children. We meet on the second Wednesday of the month starting at 7pm in the Adoration Chapel. During the Holy Hour in front of Jesus Eucharist, we make the prayers of the book exclusive to the ministry. The book contains prayers of praise, reparation, petition, forgiveness and especially... the prayer of mothers and that of the parents and others.

For more information call
Mrs. Mary Trejo at (239)771-2254

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.**



July 18th & 19th \$14,357.00
Attendance: 2,223

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 8:30AM.