

# ST. RAPHAEL

## — CATHOLIC CHURCH —

**JANUARY 19, 2025 | SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



### CONTACT US

2514 Lee Boulevard  
Lehigh Acres, FL 33971

Phone (239) 369-1831

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Fax (239) 369-1039

[parishoffice@saintraphaelcccla.org](mailto:parishoffice@saintraphaelcccla.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*



**2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

"They have no wine." - Jn 2:3

**2º DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO**

"Ya no tienen vino". - Jn 2, 3

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

## 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

### GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

January 19, 2025  
2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time  
John 2:1-12

A friend invited me to an invitation-only wine-tasting event. There were over two hundred varieties of wine. Having no idea how to approach such a massive selection, I wandered aimlessly among the tables, sipping this and that. At the end of the evening my friend asked if I had tried some of the exceptionally expensive wines. I hadn't. "The really good stuff disappears first," he said. "My man, you missed out on some amazing vino." I was so disappointed. I wasted my chance for amazing once-in-a-lifetime wine. The wine I tasted was, well, blah.

Don't we often feel a similar disappointment in life? I missed this or that opportunity. If only I had known. Optimism sputters and fades. The glory days are gone. The chances, it seems, for the really great things in life come and go so quickly. Then they are gone forever. The good stuff goes first. Then life is just blah.

Not so with the Lord Jesus. In Jesus' miracle at the wedding at Cana, the steward of the feast says, "Everyone serves good wine first, and then...an inferior one" (John 2:10). That's the natural downward progression of life. The good stuff disappears quickly. But he says of the groom (who symbolizes Jesus), "But you have kept the good wine until now." This is the ever-improving trajectory of the realm of God's grace. With Jesus, the "good wine" of divine love, hope and peace gets better as our journey of faith progresses. Where are your greatest disappointments? Don't give in to the lie that the really good stuff is gone. Tell Jesus you've run out. Then learn how to taste that amazingly good wine, because he saves the best until now.

Father John Muir  
©LPi



## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday January 18, 2025

5:00PM †John McGrady  
Req. Richard & Ruth Starr  
6:30PM Conversion of Sinners  
Req. Parishioner

### Sunday January 19, 2025

7:30AM Robert Micaletti  
Req. Janet Collins  
9:00AM Parishioners  
10:30AM †Felix Juan Andres  
Req. Daughter, Carmen Juan Andres  
12:30PM †Alberto Acosta  
Req. Rosamary Rodriguez  
5:30PM MDS, Soul in Purgatory & Aguiar Family

### Monday January 20, 2025

8:00AM †Tammy Simon  
Req. Friends at Fountain Crest Retirement Home

### Tuesday January 21, 2025

8:00AM †Sandra & †Oneta Bradford  
Req. Husband & Son

### Wednesday January 22, 2025

8:00AM Isoline Litchmore & Family

### Thursday January 23, 2025

8:00AM Protection of Life  
Req. Parishioner

### Friday January 24, 2025

8:00AM †Tony Gamble  
Req. Oscar & Susan Gamble & Family

### Saturday January 25, 2025

8:00AM Elizabeth Neary  
Req. Parishioner  
5:00PM †Rose M. Gerardo  
Req. The Altar & Rosary Society  
6:30PM Rose Marie Kalin  
Req. Parishioner

### Sunday January 26, 2025

7:30AM Carol Stephenson, Peace, Wisdom & Comfort  
Req. Loving Sister, Jan  
9:00AM †Paul Bannon  
Req. John & Birute Hodor  
10:30AM †Jose Torrens  
Req. Mr. & Mrs. Iris & Pete Pena  
12:30PM Parishioners  
5:30PM †Matdeues & †Cristino Cabece  
Req. Tina Silva

## SANCTUARY CANDLE

The sanctuary candle has been donated this week in loving memory of **Ilene Hebert**.

## CHAPEL CANDLE

The chapel candle has been donated this week in loving memory of **Clara D. Mescallado & Dr. Alfredo S. Mescallado, Sr.** requested by **Penn J. & Rose M. Gerardo**.

# Faith & Wine

## Lee County

***The Perfume of Our Tears:  
God Heals Broken Hearts***

Thursday—January 23, 2025  
6:30 pm to 8:30 pm  
Venue: St. John XXIII  
Parish Life Center  
\$28.00

**Stephanie Burke**

Join us for a three-course dinner with wine followed by this presentation and the opportunity for community and connectivity with other faith based women.

For more information and to register online please visit our website:  
[www.faithandwineleecounty.com](http://www.faithandwineleecounty.com)

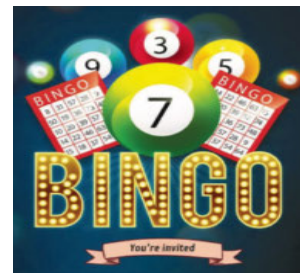
**Registration opens December 23rd**



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.

**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.**



## 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

**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.

# 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 in two locations:

February 1st at St. Leo the Great Parish in Bonita Springs at 11am, and 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 you choose to attend.**

## ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT



Please prayerfully consider becoming a regular or substitute adorer. We need people who will commit to one hour a week to the Lord in the Adoration Chapel. We are also in need of people willing to function as substitutes when a regular adorer cannot make their hour (due to illness or family obligations). For more information, please contact Joann at 508-278-6167 or fill out the form below and drop it in the basket at Mass.

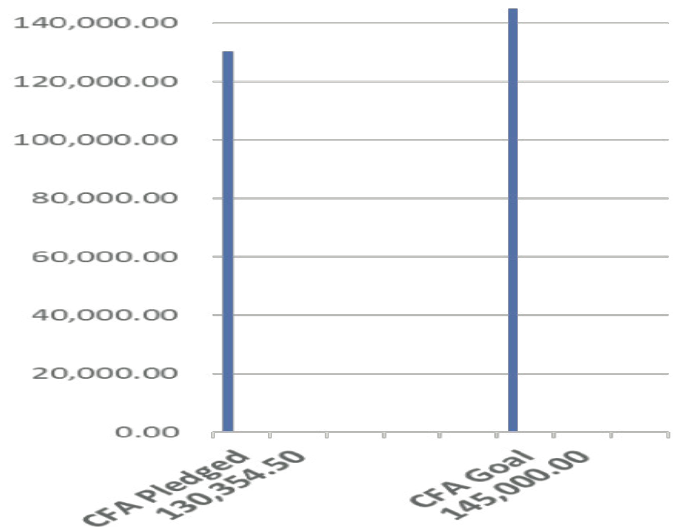
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The **Catholic Faith Appeal (CFA)** contributes to the pastoral, education, and charitable support of those in need in the Diocese of Venice. Our parish also benefits from the CFA if we exceed our goal of \$145,000.00. ***Join those in our parish family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



December 28th & 29th \$12,479.00  
Attendance: 2,066

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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on GIVING TUESDAY

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