

# 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Mass Schedule

### Saturday, 2 August

3:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

4 pm ... Our Parish Family

### Sunday, 3 August

### 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am ... †Irene Coulon by Lionel & Lillian Coulon

9:30 am ... † Leonard Murphy by Virginia Murpy

4:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

5 pm ... Poor Souls of Purgatory by the Pereira Family

### Monday, 4 August

### Saint John Vianney

12:30 pm ... †Lauren Rae Doherty (4th Anniv.) by Kerri Stanley

### Tuesday, 5 August

12:30 pm ... Poor Souls of Purgatory by the Pereira Family

### Wednesday, 6 August Transfiguration of the Lord

12:30 pm ... †Robert Canty by Jack & Colleen Byrne

### Thursday, 7 August

### Saints Sixtus II and Cajetan

12:30 pm ... †Leo Sasseville by Lionel & Lillian Coulon

### Friday, 8 August

### Saint Dominic

~ Office Closed ~

12:30 pm ... † Joseph Therrien by Andy & Marianne Therrien

### Saturday, 8 August

3:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

4 pm ... †Susan Canty by Jack & Colleen Byrne

### Sunday, 9 August

### 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am ... †Ed & †Mary Byrne by Dennis & Eileen Smith

9:30 am ... Mass

4:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

5 pm ... Our Parish Family



### Tuesday, August 5

7 pm ... Bible Study—Parish Hall Classroom

### Readings for the week of August 3, 2014

**Monday:** Jer 13:1-11; Dt 32:18-21; Mt 13:31-35

**Tuesday:** Jer 14:17-22; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

**Wednesday:** Jer 15:10, 16-21; Ps 59:2-4, 10-11, 17-18; Mt 13:44-46

**Thursday:** Jer 18:1-6; Ps 146:1b-6ab; Mt 13:47-53

**Friday:** Jer 26:1-9; Ps 69:5, 8-10, 14; Mt 13:54-58

**Saturday:** Jer 26:11-16, 24; Ps 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34; Mt 14:1-12

**Sunday:** Is 55:1-3; Ps 145:8-9, 15-18; Rom 8:35, 37-39; Mt 14:13-21

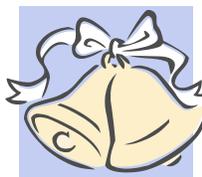
## In The News



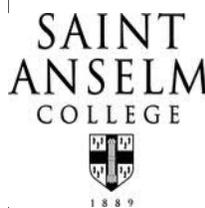
Please note that **all daily Masses during this week, Aug. 4—8, and next week, Aug. 11-15 will be at 12:30 pm** as P. Jerome, O.S.B., our pastor, will be away. **Confessions will be suspended.**



Thanks to all in the parish who have responded to the Catholic Charities Annual Campaign. Our parish's contribution goal is **\$30,000**. To date, we have raised **\$10,210. We are 1/3 of the way there! Thank you!** Please consider a contribution. Your donation transforms lives.



**Anniversary Celebration** Bishop Peter A. Libasci of Manchester invites all couples who are celebrating their **25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th** or beyond **Wedding Anniversary** (anytime during the year 2014), to attend a special anniversary Mass. This celebration will be **Oct. 6, 2014 at 2pm, at Saint Anselm Abbey**. If you are celebrating one of these anniversaries, please contact the parish office **by Aug. 13, 2014**. We will need your last and first names and mailing addresses and your anniversary year. Call the rectory at 623.2604 or email us at [secretary@saint-raphael-parish.com](mailto:secretary@saint-raphael-parish.com).



Each year, a student at Saint Anselm College is selected to receive the **Rev. Gregory C. Keleher, O.S.B. Memorial Scholarship**. This scholarship helps students from all walks of life to experience a Saint Anselm College education, regardless of their financial circumstances. This past year's recipient was **Kendra Beaugard**, who will graduate next May with a degree in Fine Arts. Congratulations, Kendra, and thank you to all who donate to this scholarship! **Father Gregory**, a dean of the college, was assistant pastor at Saint Raphael for many years as well.



**Holy Day of Obligation** Next Friday, Aug. 15, is the Solemnity of the **Assumption of Mary**. **This is a holy day of obligation**. We will have a **Vigil Mass on Thursday, Aug. 14 at 7:30 pm**, and a **Mass on Friday, Aug. 15, at 12:30 pm**.



**Sanctuary candle** The sanctuary candle burns this week for **Our Parish Family**.

## Acting, games, creativity, music, service ... and a snack at VBS

This past month, while the rest of the world recalled the beginning of World War I a century ago and was worried about the loss of airliners, missiles falling on civilian targets and reprisal air strikes, our work during **Vacation Bible School from July 14-18** may have seemed a little irrelevant. But, in fact, this work is the most relevant antidote to hate, violence and a lack of concern I can imagine. We were teaching the youngsters in our parish and friends the importance of God's love for each of us – and how that love calls us to put aside our preconceptions, preconditions and prejudices!

Last week, I discussed the principles behind VBS, how we Catholics have borrowed and reshaped what was originally a Protestant idea and how, here at **Saint Raphael**, we've been enjoying the fruit of ecumenical dialogue for the past 18 years – all the while providing our children with a **genuinely Catholic approach to the riches of Sacred Scripture**.

This week, I'd like to explore how VBS actually works. In doing so, I want to acknowledge **how grateful we are to the many older students from Saint Raphael High School Youth Ministry and the many adults who volunteer** to help our Religious Education Program conduct VBS. It's a wonderful example of **inter-generational faith-sharing as well as community and relationship building**.

VBS came to us by way of our friends at the **LaSalette Retreat Center** in Attleboro, MA, where **Dorene Turner**, our coordinator for religious education, and I first experienced the summer program as it ran in tandem with an event for adults involved in catechetical work. Our program was designed to enrich our own spirituality and knowledge of the faith, while the VBS was a way of showcasing a successful summer program and keep the children of partici-



pants busy while mom was in class, seminar and workshop. Once we heard about and saw VBS in action, we ordered the program for the very next summer – and so a

### **Saint Raphael tradition was born.**

When summer came, we started decorating the gym and parish hall and recruiting volunteers. Last week, I mentioned how the background scenes for our activities can be elaborate, but it is always a lot of fun to prepare the staging. We've used **Avalanche Ranch, Treasure Island, Polar Expedition, Crocodile Dock, African Safari** and, this year, **Weird Animals**.

The theme this year was to remind youngsters that no matter how strange or odd people may think we are, no matter how strange or odd we may think ourselves to be, we are all beautiful in God's eyes and we all have a purpose. Indeed, God may love us because we are different, not in spite of it!

So how is VBS set up? What do children experience? Each day, after learning the **songs for the day**, all of the volunteers gather in a circle for **prayer**. We pray for patience and love for these very little ones in our care, and we pray for cool and dry weather, but as Father Jerome has mentioned in homilies, "Sometimes our prayers aren't always answered as we would expect." One high school senior who has been coming to VBS most of her life shared this week that when she was little, she couldn't wait for the day when she could be a group leader so she could "pray with the big kids!"

Each day the children attend **rotating workshops or stations**. Every station is

designed to reinforce the daily Bible point in a hands-on, interactive way.

There is the **One-of-a-Kind Bible Adventures**, my personal favorite, where kids act out the Bible story and see scripture come alive. This station has some of the most elaborate staging and costuming. Maybe the next time they are at Mass, and hear Father Jerome proclaim the Gospel, they just might say, "Hey, I know that story!"

Then there's the **Untamed Games** where kids play games that are team building and fun (and sometimes very wet). The **Imagination Station** offers a chance to reinforce the Bible point again, this time through invention, exploration and hands-on activities. This is the workshop where youngsters also learn about a different saint each day.

On Wednesday, a **service project** in our own **food pantry** replaced the workshop. Our students learned all about what the food pantry does and prepared bags of food for the needy in our own neighborhood. Families donated toiletries, disposable diapers, laundry detergent, toilet paper, etc. – all necessary items, but things that cannot be purchased with food stamps.

**Kid Vid Cinema** provided a video where very real kids share real stories of how God is working in their lives, helping to connect Scripture to modern life. The children shared each day about the "God Sightings" they had witnessed the day before.

Meanwhile, throughout the week, **Critter Café** prepared snacks through a different **Zoo Crew** volunteer. Youngsters, volunteers, parish staff and sometimes Father Jerome arrive to share fun conversation about activities, the daily Bible verse, the life of the saints, the role of the sacraments and the importance of Jesus in our lives.

Not a bad way to spend a summer week, I'd say!

© Therese Dame



### **Saint Raphael**

**Food Pantry** This past Monday, July 27, the Food Pantry

served **34** families and gave out **55** bags of groceries.

### **New Summer Hours!**

Please note that the office will be closed on Fridays during the months of

July and August.

**CLOSED**

### **FOLLOWING CHRIST WITH SAINT BENEDICT** Spiritual Leader: **Father John Fortin, O.S.B.**

**Friday, Sep. 5—Sunday, Sep. 7 at Camp Bernadette/ Lake Wentworth in Wolfeboro, NH**

The 5th annual retreat weekend is open to all young adult Catholics (ages 18-40ish). **Registrations are due by Monday, Aug. 25.** To register online, go to [youngadult-2014.eventbrite.com](http://youngadult-2014.eventbrite.com). For more information, contact Sarah Jane von Haack at 603.669.3100 or [sjvonhaack@rcbm.org](mailto:sjvonhaack@rcbm.org)

## Weekly Collection

**July 27, 2014**

Offertory collection totals for this week will be posted in next week's bulletin.

**Your continued support is much appreciated!**