



Mass Schedule

Saturday, 20 September **Korean Martyrs**

3:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

4 pm ... †Suzanne Tremblay by Pat Tremblay

Sunday, 21 September **25th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30 am ... †Sylvia Hobbs by Cynthia Hobbs

9:30 am ... †Ed Bolton by Diane Bolton

4:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

5 pm ... †Josephine Joyce by Pat Morrissey

Monday, 22 September

12 pm ... †Dr. Robert Allard by his mother

Tuesday, 23 September **Saint Pius of Pietrelcina**

12 pm ... †George Koeplinger by Dave Bregar

Wednesday, 24 September

11:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

12 pm ... †Romain & †Louise Marcoux by Diane Gallant

Thursday, 25 September

8:30 am ... †Edward Bolton (1st Anniv.) by Diane Bolton

Friday, 26 September **Saints Cosmas and Damian**

5:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

6 pm ... †Sr. Anita Blier, R.H.S.J., by P. Jerome

Saturday, 27 September **Saint Vincent de Paul**

3:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

4 pm ... Our Parish Family

Sunday, 28 September **26th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30 am ... †Clayton Raymond by Connie Raymond

9:30 am ... †Elizabeth Sweetland by Kelley & Joe Spoerl

4:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

5 pm ... †Cecile D. Moore by a friend

Sanctuary candle The sanctuary candle burns this week for †**The deceased members of our Parish Family.**



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, 21 September

9:20 am ... Children's Liturgy of the Word—Parish Hall

Monday, 22 September

-7:30 pm ... Youth Ministry/Grades 6-8—Library

pm ... Food Pantry

Tuesday, 23 September

6:30-8:30 pm ... Youth Ministry/Grades 9-12—Library



Coffee & Donuts Please join us for fellowship following the 9:30 am Mass on Sundays!

In The News



Blessing of the Animals In honor of the feast of **Saint Francis of Assisi**, Saint Raphael will celebrate this great saint's love "for all creatures great and small." Bring your family pets to the parish, where P. Jerome, O.S.B., pastor, will bless the animals during a short service on **Saturday, Oct. 4, at 5:30 pm** at the church entrance. Please have your animals on a leash or in a restrainer. Crocodiles permitted but only with explicit permission!

WRITE ON THE HEART—SAINT RAPHAEL CHURCH REFLECTIONS

Have you seen our blog? Check it out at www.saint-raphaelsblog.com. We welcome guest writers, too!



Our Altar Server Investiture will be **Sunday, Sept. 28, at the 9.30 am**. Altar servers will be recognized for length of service, and we will welcome in new members. **If your children are willing to serve the Lord at the altar, please contact Kerri Stanley in the rectory at 623.2604 in order to set up a training session. HELP WANTED: Saint Raphael altar servers need someone who will launder cassocks and surplices from time to time. If you are willing to help, please call Kerri at the number above. Many thanks!**

Upcoming Parish Activities and Events!

Fri., Oct. 3: LifeLine Screening in Parish Hall.

Sat., Oct. 4: Blessing of Animals at 5:30 pm at church entrance.

Sat., Oct. 18: Oktoberfest after 4 pm Vigil Mass in Parish Hall.

Sun., Oct. 19: Ancient Order of Hibernian breakfast, open to all, following 9:30 am Mass in Parish Hall.

Readings for the week of September 21, 2014

Monday: Prv 3:27-34; Ps 15:2-5; Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday: Prv 21:1-6, 10-13; Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34, 35, 44; Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday: Prv 30:5-9; Ps 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104, 163; Lk 9:1-6

Thursday: Eccl 1:2-11; Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17bc; Lk 9:7-9

Friday: Eccl 3:1-11; Ps 144:1b, 2abc, 3-4; Lk 9:18-22

Saturday: Eccl 11:9 — 12:8; Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17; Lk 9:43b-45

Sunday: Ez 18:25-28; Ps 25:4-9; Phil 2:1-11 [1-5]; Mt 21:28-32

Saint Raphael Book Discussion Group celebrates its 10th anniversary

This past week, the members of our **Saint Raphael Book Discussion Group** gathered to celebrate their 10th anniversary as an organized community of readers, thinkers and believers. During my time as pastor here, few developments have so pleased me as the emergence and development of the book group – and, alas, other than giving it my blessing, I myself have done next to nothing to bring the group together and animate it. It’s a good lesson that **sometimes the best things** happen simply because people are free to plan their own progress!

Ever since the **summer of 2004**, the book group has met every couple of months to discuss a novel, play, non-fiction work or group of poems. They have read the work, considered questions, raised issues and connected the material to deep, abiding questions of life and faith, identity and freedom, personal responsibility and public cooperation.

They have taken field trips to bookstores, attended dramatic performances and lectures, met and corresponded with authors, welcomed new members from other parish communities, reached out to various organizations at Saint Raphael and in the community, heard guest speakers and debated, discussed, dissected and diagnosed various works. They have **collaborated with our young people**. They have enjoyed picnics, suppers and pub visits together, contributed to several community service projects, including sending books to **Saint Mary of the Angel Parish in New Orleans**, a community with which we cooperated after Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

Every several books, they tackle a directly spiritual work – a classic, a currently popular work, an encyclical or other work by the Holy Father or something directly from Sacred Scripture – but in all their discussions, book club members are open to and eager for consideration of **all that is truly human** – and that inevitably and necessarily includes the spiritual, the religious, the holy, the transcendent, the sacramental – all the ways God



makes his presence known among his people. In considering the truly human, **the divine** ought to be acknowledged and embraced for it is embedded within human nature and need. Sometimes,

books dealing with a particular effort in the Church, such as the Year of Saint Paul, are read. The discussion group examined the work of Father **Daniel J. Harrington, S.J.**, a noted Scripture scholar.

Readings and discussions have focused on major literary figures such as **C.S. Lewis, Henrik Ibsen, Francois Mauriac, Thomas Hardy, William Shakespeare, Jane Austen, Charlotte Bronte, Charles Dickens, Flannery O’Connor, Edith Wharton, John Steinbeck** and **Truman Capote**. Contemporary writers, such as **Ron Hansen, Ronald Rolheiser, John O’Donoghue, Andre Dubus** and **Jonathan Safran Foer** show up on the reading lists too. Likewise, classic spiritual writers such as **C.S. Lewis, Dorothy Day, Saint Teresa of Avila, Saint Therese of Lisieux, Sister Macrina Wiederkehr, O.S.B.**, and **Father James Martin, S.J.**, have been considered – and these are partial lists.

Most definitely, our book discussion group is not just another club talking about the flavor, fad or folly of the month. For that, I am deeply grateful to an old friend, **Ann-Maria Contarino**, a part-time lecturer in English at Saint Anselm College and a full-time enthusiast for all things literary. **Eileen Smith**, now director of evangelization for the Diocese of Manchester and, at the time, director of litur-

gy and adult faith formation at Saint Raphael, approached Professor Contarino about organizing a book discussion group, and the two collaborated on it for several years until Eileen’s responsibilities with the diocese precluded an active role.

Prior to each book selection, Professor Contarino discusses her choices with me, solicits suggestions and sometime outlines her approach. Prior to any of that, of course, members of the discussion group **voice suggestions**, so that members enjoy genuine participation in the selection process. Each session, usually held in the conference room at the entry of the church, includes prayer and activities, as well as a brief presentation on the book and plenty of discussion. Prior to the group’s meetings, participants have an opportunity to pick up the book, **a reading guide with discussion questions and other materials**. Newcomers never need feel at sea in the discussion group, because such careful efforts help them become grounded quickly in the group’s approach.

Whenever I’ve had an opportunity to join the book group, I’ve found their discussions to be **spirited and faith-filled**. Readings sometimes occasion tearful eyes, broad smiles, hearty laughs and occasional head-scratching. At the same time, however, people listen to each other with respect and interest, sharing their insights and even aspects of their own personal experience. Sometimes questions can be rather challenging, but I have to believe that, in the bargain, the book group experience **deepens faith in Christ and attachment to his Church**.

These days, when things come and go so quickly, reaching a **10th birthday** is indeed cause for celebration. **Happy Birthday, SRP Book Discussion Group**, and many thanks to all who help it succeed! The book discussion group welcomes everyone and encourages the whole parish community to hear the same voice that moved Saint Augustine long ago, *“Tolle et lege!”* “Pick up and read!”



Saint Raphael Food Pantry This past Monday, September 13, the food pantry served **28** families and gave

out **43** bags of groceries. We are in need of baked beans, canned vegetables, cereal, and canned fruit. Thank you!



Thank you to everyone currently serving in the **U.S. Armed Forces!** Please keep them in your prayers, especially:

**Kenneth Breuder
Philip Breuder
Danielle Wells**



Catholic Charities

Our parish has raised **\$12,340** towards Catholic Charities. Our parish’s contribution goal is **\$30,000**. Please consider a contribution. Your donation trans-

Weekly Collection

September 14, 2014

Offertory Regular	\$2,872.00
Offertory Make-Up	\$ 483.00
Offertory Loose	\$ 666.00
Total:	\$4,021.00
Stewardship:	\$1,949.00

Jesus gave everything! Let us give something.