

IV Sunday of Easter



Mass Intentions
for the Week

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, 25 April **Saint Mark, Evangelist**

3:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

4 pm ... ☩ Charles Richard by Simone Richard

Sunday, 26 April **IV Sunday of Easter**

7:30 am ... Our Parish Family

9:30 am ... Catholic War Veterans, living and deceased

4:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

5 pm ... ☩ Nelson R. Kelly by Virginia Kelly

Monday, 27 April

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

Tuesday, 28 April **Sts Peter Chanel, Louis Grignion de Montfort**

12 pm ... ☩ Norris E. Joyce, Sr., by Lionel & Lillian Coulon

Wednesday, 29 April **Saint Catherine of Siena**

11:30 am ... Confession & Reconciliation

12 pm ... ☩ John & ☩ Theresa Grady by the Pereira family

Thursday, 30 April **Saint Pius V**

8:30 am ... ☩ Danny Vaillancourt by Jane Daly

Friday, May 1 **Saint Joseph the Worker**

5:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

6 pm ... Kathy Pereira (living) by her family

6:30 pm ... Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, May 2 **Saint Athanasius**

3:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

3:35 pm ... Rosary

4 pm ... ☩ Charles Richard by Simone Richard

Sunday, May 3 **V Sunday of Easter**

7:30 am ... ☩ Eileen Audet by Jane Daly

9:30 am ... First Communion class by Saint Raphael Parish

4:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

5 pm ... Our Parish Family

Sunday, 26 April

10:30 am ... Coffee and Doughnuts—Parish Hall

10:45 am ... Children's Choir—Parish Hall

Monday, 27 April

7—8 pm ... Food Pantry

Tuesday, 28 April

12:30 pm ... Parish Nurse—Church Conf. Room

Wednesday, 29 April

7:30 pm ... Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, 2 May

9—11:30 am ... Children's Adoration—Chapel

Sunday, 3 May

9:20 am ... Children's Religious Ed—Parish Hall

10:30 am ... Coffee and Doughnuts—Parish Hall

10:45 am ... Children's Choir—SBA Library



Join us for Evening Prayer, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and the Crowning of the B.V.M. statue in Our Lady's Bower, the parish garden, Tuesday, May 5 at 6:30 pm. (In case of inclement weather, we will crown our indoor statue.) Members of the First Communion class, in their outfits, along with this year's Confirmation candidates, and their families are especially invited to attend. One of the loveliest events of the year!



Grief and Loss Group

Saint Raphael Parish is hoping to start a support group for those who have lost a loved one in the past few years and want support in their journey of grief. This six-week structured support group would meet on Tuesday afternoons, from 2:30-4 pm, **May 5 through June 9**, and would be facilitated by Therese Dame and Anna Wallich. Please call Therese at 647.2283 or Anna at 623.2604 if you would be interested in participating in this group.

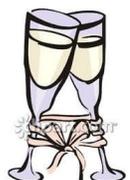


Sanctuary candle The sanctuary candle burns this week for ☩ Eileen Audet by Claire Sasseville.



Roots/Routes of Faith! Following in the Footsteps of Saint Paul— Saint Raphael is planning a **2015 pilgrimage to Greece and Turkey.** The trip **Oct. 7-18** will include **three nights at sea** as we **cruise key Greek isles in the Aegean!**

Interested? Flyers are on website and at back of church.



Congratulations to **Craig Avery Eastman of Dover and Kara Helen Schlender**, married April 18 by P. Jerome, O.S.B., pastor, at Saint Raphael Parish. Kara is the daughter of Walter and Ronnie (Buckley) Schlender.



The New Saint Raphael Follies & Revue

We want you to be a part of our revival of Saint Raphael's Follies Show **THURSDAY, JUNE 25 AND FRIDAY, JUNE 26.** Singers, dancers, jugglers, comics or whatever, please consider joining the show! This event can help

Saint Raphael raise "fun" AND "funds." See what you and your friends can do! **Register by May 1. Forms and further details are at www.saint-raphael-parish.com and flyers are at the back of the church.**

Shepherding Those Who Grieve, through the Love of Christ



During the Easter season, the Church emphasizes the victory of the **Risen Christ** over death and the continuing power he gives us to reassert and rediscover the beauty, value and

meaning of life. For those reasons, I think, initiating a program to help with loss and grief here at Saint Raphael during the **Great 50 Days of Easter** makes sense. I am happy that **Anna Wallich**, our pastoral assistant, and **Therese Dame**, our director of religious education, have agreed to serve as facilitators of the program, and I hope parishioners who may be in one stage or another of grief will take advantage of it.

As we celebrate **Good Shepherd Sunday** this week, it is worth remembering that although Jesus Christ is now and forever our eternal Good Shepherd, he invites each of us to **help lift up and carry the sheep of his flock** in and through ministry and fellowship.

Our Saint Raphael initiative was sparked by the request of several parishioners in recent months, and will be a targeted effort that **will run for six weeks**. It recognizes that loss and sorrow cause changes in life that can leave us confused, lonely, hurt, depressed, listless and angry – sometimes at God, sometimes at the person we have lost, sometimes at the world around us and sometimes at ourselves.

The aim of our bereavement group at Saint Raphael is to help participants discover within themselves, within Christ and his Church and within the community, the resources and the approaches they will need to find meaning in their loss so that they can move forward in their grief. **Moving forward does not mean** abandoning memories, forgetting the impact or devaluing the presence of someone whom we have lost. Instead, it means **acknowledging the dignity of each individual** whom God, in his love and providence, sends my way and recognizing the nature of change in life. It also means recognizing that in the course of life, God may call away from me those individuals, while continuing to provide me with his same love and providence. As I move on through life, **I take the best of the past with**



me, and, in God's mercy, let the pain slip away.

In virtually every situation of grief, it is vitally important for someone feeling the pain of loss to have an opportunity to tell his or her story, and one of the unfortunate features of contemporary American society is the fact that many people fear death and all that is associated with it. Often, people do not know how to approach survivors of loss and too many friends and neighbors, with the best of intentions, back off to give a survivor time and space. While there is an appropriate reserve to be shown with those who are grieving, there is likewise **a need for friendship, support and encouragement**. Without the presence of others who care, the survivor has no one with whom to share his or her story, and as the busyness of ordinary life takes

over for friends and relatives, the grieving person is left feeling very alone in their grief.

The weekly meetings at Saint Raphael **will give participants an opportunity to express** how they feel, to share what they have lost, to talk about what the loss has meant and how they are coping. We live out of a Catholic perspective and we recognize that the situations and circumstances of our brothers and sisters are of great importance – the more that I can understand and empathize with the loss of another, the more I can discover resources for healing and wholeness given by God within myself. Individuals who **open themselves to the stories**

of others discover that they can contribute to healing for themselves and others. Likewise, they can learn from the difficulties and challenges fellow participants have faced.

One of the things I especially like about **the Catholic and Christian approach to loss and grief** that Anna and Therese have adopted is the opportunity to explore the resources that our faith tradition offers us. Reading the Scriptures, the sacred and living biblical Word of God; participating in a devotion to Mary, the holy Mother of God; deepening our liturgical and prayer life; learning about the saints, stories of individual Christians, the teachings of the popes in recent years: all these provide a treasury of understanding, hope and encouragement. Likewise, the life of the parish can provide those seeking to find a new and balanced way of living many opportunities for service, social interaction and friendship.

I believe that a gentle but forthright acknowledgement of loss and pain and genuine effort to rediscover hope makes sense for most people, and I hope that those in need will **consider the opportunities** provided by our bereavement group. By no means do we think we have all the answers, but we do believe that the model of encounter we wish to employ emulates Jesus himself gathering at table with his grieving disciples after they walked **along the road to Emmaus** and revealing to them the truth and beauty of the Resurrection and its implications in their own lives!



April 26, 2015

Readings for the week of April 26, 2015

Monday: Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:1-10
Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-7; Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday: Acts 12:24 — 13:5a; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Jn 12:44-50
Thursday: Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27; Jn 13:16-20
Friday: Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6 or (for the memorial)
 Gn 1:26 — 2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24; Ps 90:2-4, 12-14, 16; Mt 13:54-58
Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 14:7-14
Sunday: Acts 9:26-31; Ps 22:26-28, 30-32; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8



Please join the Book Group in welcoming the Spring sunshine by reading Richard Paul Evans' *The Walk*. This moving novel chronicles one man's physical and spiritual journey from tragedy to wholeness, and can give us great insight into how God sends special people into our lives when we need them most. We will meet on **Thursday, May 28, at 7 pm** upstairs in the church classroom. Books, walking journals, and an activity sheet are available in the parish office for \$12. Please call to register.

In Sympathy Please pray for †**Arthur E. Cooper**, father of Abbot Mark Cooper, O.S.B., called home to the Lord April 15, and whose funeral was celebrated last week. Also, please keep in your prayers the families of †**Doris Moreau**, who passed away April 16, and †**Geraldine Kornichuck**, who passed away April 17.



Like us on Facebook and get updates and information about Saint Raphael!

INTERFAITH WOMEN OF NH is a Manchester area group of women of many faiths who gather to share our religious beliefs, cultures and traditions to develop understanding and friendship among us. We are pleased to invite all women to join us for our next event, "Breaking Bread Together" on **Monday, May 4, 6:45 pm**, at First Congregational Church, 508 Union St. in Manchester. Bread plays a central role in many of our faith traditions. Come to listen, learn, share, and taste breads from our many traditions. RSVP to interfaithwomennh@gmail.com call Veronica at [603.669.5076](tel:603.669.5076).

Summer Program at Northeast Catholic College Room is still available for the Summer Program at Northeast Catholic College in Warner, NH! The Collegiate Summer Program offers participants the opportunity to study theology, philosophy, literature and political science. During the summer program, students also attend daily Mass and enjoy sports, socials and day trips including hiking and canoeing. The program is for students who will be entering their sophomore, junior or senior year of high school in the fall of 2015. It is also open to students who have just graduated high school. The Collegiate Summer Program is a two-week session that runs from **Sunday, July 26 – Saturday, August 8, 2015**. Register today at www.NortheastCatholic.edu! For more information, contact the admissions office at admissions@northeastcatholic.edu or [603.456.2656](tel:603.456.2656).

World Meeting of Families Pilgrimage and Papal Mass The Diocese of Manchester is sponsoring a pilgrimage to the World Meeting of Families, in Philadelphia, from Sep. 22—27, 2015. Participants from around the U.S. and the world will convene to explore the critical role the family plays in society and to give families, and those who minister to families, opportunities to talk about the challenges and blessings that all families have. Pope Francis will visit Philadelphia and celebrate a public Mass on Sunday, Sep. 27. For information and pilgrimage details go to the diocesan website (www.catholicnh.org/wmof).

Weekly Collection

April 19, 2015

Offertory Regular	\$ 3,609.00
Offertory Make-Up	548.00
Offertory Loose	701.35
Offertory Online Giving	160.00
Total:	\$ 5,018.35
Stewardship	\$ 183.00
Easter	\$ 75.00
Food Pantry	\$ 921.00

Thank you for your generosity!



Saint Raphael Food Pantry On Monday, April 13, the Food Pantry served **41** adults, **23** children, and gave out **37** bags of groceries. Last Monday, April 20, the Food Pantry served **18** families and gave out **24** bags of groceries. We are in need of baked beans 28 oz, beef stew and Spaghettios. Be sure to LIKE us on our new Facebook Page—**Saint Raphael Food Pantry / Hope Chest** to get news and updates!



Baby Bottle Fundraiser The Saint Raphael Respect Life Committee is sponsoring its 6th Annual Baby Bottle fundraiser to benefit Care-Net Pregnancy Center. Bottles will be available for distribution Mother's Day weekend, May 9 -10, at the back of the church and in the chapel. Please limit bottles to one per family and return your bottle on Father's Day weekend, June 20-21. We look forward to your help in making this project a success again this year.

IV Sunday of Easter



Prayers for Life invites you to participate in the Quilt of Prayer. The New Hampshire quilt, blessed by Pope John Paul II, will be at Saint Raphael Parish **April 6 through April 27**. It contains the names of individuals who have prayed fifty 5-decade Rosaries (in addition to their usual rosary commitments) exclusively for pro-life intentions. Yellow forms with information on having your name adorned to the New Hampshire quilt are located at the back of the church. You are invited to pray the Rosary and to bear witness to our Faith, which cherishes the sanctity of all human life.



The Goffstown Council 5112 Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a Dinner & Concert featuring Paul Bordeleau at Saint Lawrence Church in Goffstown on Saturday evening **May 16**. Tickets for the Dinner and Concert are modestly priced at \$25 per person (\$100 per family max.) or \$10 for the concert only (\$30 per family max.). Tickets can be obtained by contacting Knights of Columbus / Jim Finn at 497.3773 or Saint Lawrence parish office

at 497.2651.



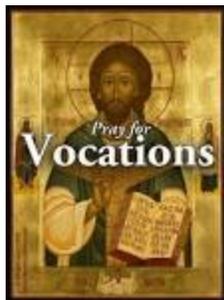
Saint Anthony Parish in Manchester has an opening in their Music Ministry for a guitarist to lead the music with the Folk Group at the 4pm Mass on Saturdays year round. This is a paid position. Applicant must be a skilled musician who can also sing well. Rehearsals take place 1 hour before Mass. For more information, please call the rectory office at 625.6409.

WANTED!

Calling all writers, poets, artists, photographers, and anyone with other creative talents! Please consider sending some of your work to Saint Raphael's new literary magazine. You can bring a sample of your work to the parish office or send it to talentsliterarymagazine@gmail.com or talentsliterarymagazine@gmail.com. For more detailed information, pick up one of the flyers at the doors of the church. The submission deadline is **May 15th**, so please respond soon. Let your light shine!



We would like to thank everyone who came out for the Empty Bowl Soup Supper on March 12. Through your generosity, **\$1,083** was raised and will go towards our food pantry.



On Sunday, April 26, 2015, the Church will celebrate the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. The purpose of the Day is to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to "ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest." (Mt 9:38, Lk 10:2). Parishes throughout New Hampshire will observe the day through special prayers and devotions.

A vocation is what God calls a person to do with his or her life. Some are called to serve as priests or religious, some to marriage and family life, and some to the single life. On the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, the Church lifts up in prayer vocations to the ordained ministries (priesthood and diaconate), to the religious life in all its forms (male and female, contemplative and apostolic), to societies of apostolic life, to secular institutes in their diversity of services and membership, and to the missionary life.

"In the Gospel reading for this Sunday, Jesus recounts the Parable of the Good Shepherd," said the Most Reverend Peter A. Libasci, Bishop of Manchester. "Christians believe that Jesus is the Good Shepherd who lays down his life for his flock. While all of us are called to imitate Christ, priests and religious are not 'hired help' but rather, like the Good Shepherd himself, offer their entire lives in service to the Church and to the people of God, just as Jesus did. It takes a special person to do that, and I hope all Catholics around the state will join me in praying for an increase in the numbers of those who follow God's call to do so."

Reverend Jason Y. Jalbert, director of the Office of Vocations for the Diocese of Manchester, said, "We are grateful for your prayers! Praying for vocations makes a real difference and it is something everyone can do; I know it helped me on my journey and many seminarians and priests would say the same. I would also encourage any young man or woman who has questions about their own vocation to speak to their parish priest, since he can give some helpful advice."

2015 marks the 52nd anniversary of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. This year, the Church also marks the Year of Consecrated Life, which began last fall and continues until February 2016. For more information about the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, the Year of Consecrated Life, or about your own vocation, please visit: www.catholicnh.org/vocations.