

Solemnity of Pentecost



Saturday, 23 May

3:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

3:35 pm ... Rosary

4 pm ... ☩ Betty, ☩ Ernie, ☩ Ernest and ☩ Anna Heidenreich by Al & Barbara Heidenreich

Sunday, 24 May

Solemnity of Pentecost

7:30 am ... Our Parish Family

9:30 am ... ☩ Lucille M. Kelley by the Kelley family

4:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

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

Monday, 25 May OFFICE CLOSED - HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY

9 am ... Memorial Day Mass at Saint Joseph Cemetery

Tuesday, 26 May

Saint Philip Neri, Priest

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

Wednesday, 27 May

Saint Augustine of Canterbury

11:30 am ... Confession & Reconciliation

12 pm ... ☩ Eileen Audet by Dottie DeCotis

12:35 pm ... Rosary

Thursday, 28 May

8:30 am ... ☩ James McGrath by Joyce and P.J. Guill

Friday, 29 May

5:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

6 pm ... ☩ Mary & ☩ Tom Kilrain Sr. by Peggy Kilrain

Saturday, 30 May

3:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

3:35 pm ... Rosary

4 pm ... ☩ Jeannette Magarian by Charles Magarian

Sunday, 31 May

The Most Holy Trinity

7:30 am ... Madeline Zell (living) by Anne Clark

9:30 am ... ☩ Edward Heroux by Cassandra Benner

pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

pm ... Our Parish Family

4:30
5

Sunday, 24 May

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

Tuesday, 26 May

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

2:30—4 pm ... Grief & Loss Group—Church Conf. Room

Sunday, 31 May

10:30 am ... Breakfast honoring RCIA, First Communion & Confirmation recipients—Parish Hall



Annual Memorial Day

Mass will be celebrated **Monday, May 25 at 9 am** at Old Saint Joseph's Cemetery, Donald Street, Manchester. If it rains, Mass will be in Saint Joseph Cathedral. Please bring a lawn chair for seating at the cemetery. Note that there will be **NO MASS at Saint**

Raphael Parish on Memorial Day and the office will be closed.



Trinity Sunday Mass and

breakfast Members of this year's First Communion and Confirmation classes, as well as

those welcomed into the Church at the Easter Vigil, will be honored during the **9:30 am Mass on the Most Holy Trinity, May 31**. Following the Mass, they will be guests of honor at our **parish breakfast** immediately afterwards. All welcome!



The New Saint Raphael Follies & Devue

We want you to be a part of our revival of Saint Raphael's Follies Show **THURSDAY, JUNE 25 AND FRIDAY, JUNE 26**. We need volunteers in several areas, so if you don't want to do an act,

please consider helping out somewhere else. Volunteers are needed in the following capacities: **TICKETS**—printing, distribution, sales, prizes; **RECEPTION**—intermission, Chinese auction; **PROGRAM**—retail ads, tribute ads, printing, etc. Call Kerri at the rectory at 623.2604 for more information and see where your best talents can be applied for the success of our show! For those who are performing, you should begin to practice on your own. Susan Papinsick, our director, will be following up with you regarding more structured



Sanctuary candle The sanctuary candle burns this week for the **family of James & Marion Myers, living and deceased**, by Kathleen Perkins.

In Sympathy

Please pray for parishioner ☩ **Heritier J. Bosa**, who died May 17 and whose funeral will be celebrated Saturday, May

30, at 10 am by P. Jerome. Heritier, 26, was drowned in a swimming accident on Sunday, May 17. Saint Raphael parishioners are encouraged to attend his wake, which will be Friday, May 29 at 7:30 pm here at the church, and Mass to support his family, immigrants from the Congo (Zaire).

Top Ten moments of Holy Spirit in Scripture ... and they're all for us!

Dave Letterman's retirement this past week as host of the CBS "Late Night" show has deprived habitués of television fare after 11.30 p.m. of one of the icons of the talk show genre. While Letterman's world is not one that I much visit, his Top Ten lists have become a staple in entertainment, political and economic affairs. There is no reason not to borrow the technique. After all, **God himself produced the first great list** of 10 things "thou shalt" and "shalt not" do! I wonder if Letterman's writers realized that their signature gag was introduced atop Mount Sinai!

This weekend, as we celebrate the beautiful Solemnity of **Pentecost**, concluding the Great Fifty Days, during which the Church reflects on the meaning of the Resurrection, Ascension and Descent of the Holy Spirit. It might be useful to devise our own **top 10 moments when the Holy Spirit makes the divine presence known to mankind**.

1. The Bible opens with the spirit of the Lord hovering over the water, ready to breathe life into this world that God is creating (Gen 1:2). All the insights science has provided about evolution do not deny, but rather reinforce, the truth of God's creative agency – and most remarkable is the movement from inanimate objects to animate life. For centuries, men and women have discerned God's creative presence in our natural world, insights still available to us in the Native American and Celtic traditions.

2. After the destruction of the world in the Great Flood, **Noah and his family** came to rest in the ark atop a mountain. To determine if the waters were receding, Noah **released a dove**, which first returned to the ship, then returned with a twig and finally did not return, signaling that life could begin again. (Gen 8:6-12) The dove has been as symbol of the Holy Spirit's life-giving action in our world.

3. The Prophet Ezekiel, like his contemporary Jeremiah, was never one to mince words. His book is filled with descriptions and denunciations of Israel's infidelity and sin, but he consistently holds out **the possibility of reform and renewal**. In Ez 37:9-10, we discover the remarkable vision of the valley of dry bones. Here, the bodies of the slain return to new life in a powerful image of **divine transformation** – the very changes that Christ will bring to fulfillment.

4. For ancient Israel, the center of the nation was **Jerusalem**, and the center of Jerusalem was the **Great Temple**, and the center of the Temple was the **Holy of Holies**, and, there, in that sacred place, the presence of God could be found. The

Ark of the Covenant, with the tablets of the Law, the rod of Aaron, the first high priest, and bits of manna from the wanderings in the desert, provided the footstool for the "**Shekinah**," the presence of God. Some Scripture scholars see the Shekinah already making God present to Israel in the "pillar of fire" and the "column of smoke" that went before and followed them in the Sinai Desert as described in Exodus. How much the world, especially the Mideast at this time of factions and violence, needs to recognize the presence of God in each man and woman.

5. With the **incarnation of Jesus Christ** in the womb of Mary of Nazareth, **God's definitive presence in the world** is made known, visible and palpable. When the Holy Spirit overshadows Mary, her womb is quickened and a new life – the life of the Redeemer, true God and yet true Man – is formed (Lk 1:35-38).

The beauty of Christmas depends entirely upon God's initiative in the Spirit and Mary's freely given human response, "Be it done unto me according to thy word."

6. The gospels tell us that when Jesus went to the **River Jordan** to be baptized by his kinsman **John the Baptist**, the heavens opened up and a dove descended over the head of the Lord even as the voice of the Father was heard to proclaim, "This is my Beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." (Lk 3:21-22) The power of Baptism – union with Christ, adoption as sons and daughters by the Father and life in the Holy Spirit – is given to each of us. We receive cleansing from original sin, membership in Christ's Mystical Body, the Church and we begin to experience the transforming life of the Holy Spirit. We make promises to God; in turn, **he promises us the Holy Spirit**, and, if we are faithful, **eternal life**.

7. Just before Jesus begins his ascent to Jerusalem to enact the Paschal Mystery of his dying and rising to new life, he climbs the "holy mountain," traditionally understood to be Mount Tabor, with the three disciples closest to him, Peter, James and John. There the apostles behold the **Transfiguration**, the Lord's transformation in brilliant light before their eyes, and the appearance of Moses and Elijah, representing Israel's tradition of the

Law and the Prophets (Mk 9:2-8). That same transformation occurs in us, less dramatically, of course, as we receive through the Spirit the grace of the sacraments and grow in the Word of God. Such full transfiguration awaits us at the end of the ages.

8. During the **Last Supper**, Jesus takes bread and wine and consecrates them to become his own **Body and Blood**. His act is repeated in every Mass, as the priest, relying on the power of the Holy Spirit, extends his hands over the offering and invokes the power of the Spirit to transubstantiate the gifts. This liturgical act, the "**epiclesis**," reminds us that the power of Jesus continues in the Church through the Spirit shared with us. The Mass is an encounter with Christ in memory, celebration, sacrifice, community and transformation – **all possible because of the Spirit**, who gives us divine grace, life and love.

9. The Crucifixion, that terrible moment in which Jesus dies out of love of his Father and for us, that moment when the God-Man submits to the power of death so that he might destroy the permanent alienation from God caused by sin and death, may seem far from the Spirit. Yet Jesus expires, he **breathes his last, giving up his human life for the world**. (Jn 19:30) Metaphorically, his expiring breath will become the Spirit.

10: This weekend's feast commemorates that remarkable moment in the Upper Room 50 days after the Resurrection, only 10 days after the Ascension, when **the apostles gathered in prayer with Mary, the Mother of God**. They saw **tongues, as of fire**, descend upon them. They felt the rush of a **great wind**. They heard each other speaking in all the **languages** of the world. In that moment, they experienced the Holy Spirit and were inspired, strengthened and impelled to proclaim Christ! (Acts 1:1-6) Those same Pentecostal gifts of the Holy Spirit, my friends, are still ours in and through **the same Spirit! Alleluia!**

© Rev. Jerome Joseph Day, O.S.B.



May 24, 2015

Readings for the week of May 24, 2015

Monday: Sir 17:20-24; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 10:17-27
Tuesday: Sir 35:1-12; Ps 50:5-8, 14, 23; Mk 10:28-31
Wednesday: Sir 36:1, 4-5a, 10-17; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Mk 10:32-45
Thursday: Sir 42:15-25; Ps 33:2-9; Mk 10:46-52
Friday: Sir 44:1, 9-13; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Mk 11:11-26
Saturday: Sir 51:12cd-20; Ps 19:8-11; Mk 11:27-33
Sunday: Dt 4:32-34, 39-40; Ps 33:4-6, 9, 18-20, 22; Rom 8:14-17; Mt 28:16-20



Our 2015 Catholic Charities fundraising drive has begun. Our **goal** this year is to raise **\$30,000 and we have raised \$1,750 to date!** You can give through a pledge, become a sustaining donor with a monthly gift or give once a year. **Every dollar is important. Every gift brings hope.** As you're considering your donation, please keep in mind that Catholic Charities serves 1-in-13 people throughout NH. To do that, we need your continued support. Thank you!

Weekly Collection

May 17, 2015

Offertory Regular	\$ 4,000.00
Offertory Make-Up	307.00
Offertory Loose	985.75
Offertory Online Giving	110.00
Total:	\$ 5,402.75
Stewardship	\$ 182.00
Stewardship Online Giving	50.00
Total Stewardship:	\$ 232.00
Ascension of the Lord	\$ 2,028.00
Ascension of the Lord Loose	199.50
Ascension Online Giving	10.00
Total Ascension of the Lord	\$ 2,237.50
Food Pantry	\$ 395.00

Thank you for your generosity!



Save the date! VBS... Saint Raphael's ever popular Vacation Bible School is coming! This year, VBS will be **July 13-17 from 9 am—12 pm.** This year's theme is

"Everest—Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power". We are enlisting volunteers and participants and applications will be available soon!



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 **Thursday, May 28, at 7 pm** upstairs in the church conference room. Books, walking journals, and an activity sheet are available in the parish office for \$12.



A shout out to **Liam Quinn** who will be graduating from Trinity High School this year. Liam is the son of Katie Kenney and he will be attending Stonehill College in Easton, MA. Congratulations, Liam!

Do you have a graduate in the family? Please email the office at secretary@saint-raphael-parish.com with the graduate's school and further endeavor plans so we can share it with our parishioners.



Saint Raphael Food Pantry On Monday, May 18, the Food Pantry served **33** families and gave out **55** bags of groceries. We are in need of soup, macaroni & cheese, and Spaghetti's. Be sure to **LIKE** us on our new Facebook Page—**Saint Raphael Food Pantry / Hope Chest** to get news



Special Collection for Victims of Nepal Earthquake

Bishop Libasci is asking parishes to take up a special free will offering the weekend of May 30-31 to support recovery efforts in Nepal following last month's devastating earthquake.

Donations collected will benefit Catholic Relief Services. Thank you for responding to this plea and please keep all of

Lynne Hartshorn Memorial Blood Drive



Please mark your calendar for **Monday, June 16 from 1-6pm** in the Parish Hall. Lynne was a longtime volunteer and receptionist at the American Red Cross Center in Manchester. Her son, Peter Hartshorn and his wife, Melissa and their three children are parishioners of Saint Raphael. All blood donations would be greatly appreciated!



Like us on Facebook and get updates and information about Saint Raphael! We tweet, too (sometimes)! Find us at **StRaphaelManch.**



Solemnity of Pentecost

Parish Giving

Saint Raphael has implemented the online giving option for your convenience. You can access the link via our website, www.saint-raphael-parish.com and follow the

steps to register for automatic payments or just a one time donation. Have questions? Call the rectory at 623.2604 and we will be happy to answer any questions you may have. **Laminated cards are located on the table at the back of the church for you to drop into the collection basket during the offertory collections.**



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 our website and at back of church. Still time to sign up! **Invite your family and friends to join us!** Please call the rectory at 623.2604 if you are interested or have questions. Forms are available on our website, www.saint-raphael-parish.com.



Baby Bottle Fundraiser—Bottles are available for distribution at the back of the church for Saint Raphael Respect Life Committee's 6th Annual Baby Bottle Fundraiser. Bottles should be returned during the Father's Day weekend Masses, June 20-21. Thank you for helping to make this a success again this year!



Write on the Heart Our Saint Raphael Parish blog provides the opportunity to evangelize through modern technology and opens a forum for dialogue about issues of daily life and faith. You are invited to visit, follow, comment on submissions and contribute at saintraphaelsblog.com.

Prayer for Peace and Freedom in the World Please join us on Saturday, May 30 for a Divine Liturgy/Mass at 10 am, followed by a luncheon reception at 12 pm, at the Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, 54 Walnut Street (church entrance is on Lowell Street), Manchester. This event will begin with time for private prayer in the church at 9:30 am. After liturgy, guests are cordially invited into the church hall for fellowship and a luncheon reception featuring Ukrainian cuisine. Also in the hall, there will be a presentation: "The Crisis in Ukraine" as well as a variety of cultural and historical displays. At 2 pm a memorial prayer service, known as Panakhyda, will take place in the church. All are welcome to attend. The event will close with the praying of the Rosary in church. A \$5 per person donation is suggested for the luncheon.

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).

Pilgrimage To Canada

August 3-6, 2015. \$425 per person based upon double occupancy. Visiting the Shrines of St. Joseph Oratory in Montreal, St Anne de Beaupre in Quebec and more! Cost includes Coach Bus transportation from Plaistow, Manchester, Derry and Claremont. Two full meals a day, accommodations with private facilities, taxes, etc. For information contact Juanita ([603](tel:6038264486)) 826-4486 or juanitjoy@comcast.net.

We are still looking to increase our group of altar servers **especially for the 4 pm Saturday Vigil, 7:30 am, and 5 pm Sunday Masses**. Typically, candidates are considered as soon as they reach third grade and have made their First Communion. **If you are interested in training to be a server, please contact Kerri Stanley in the rectory at 623.2604 in order to set up a training session.**



Welcomed into the Roman Catholic Church on May 16, through the waters of Baptism, were **Caleb Pierce Rossi** son of Jonathan and Erica (Caeilla) Rossi, and **Elijah Sherman Rossi**, son of Christopher and Ruth (Edmunds) Rossi, by Fr. Mathias Durette, O.S.B.; On Sunday, May 17, **Lillie Theresa Young**, daughter of Teri Young and granddaughter of Dottie and the late Charlie Young, was baptized by Fr. Marcel Allard. Let us strive, by our word and example, to create an environment for him to come to know the love of God and the meaning of **"being church."**



First time visitor? Welcome! There are cards on the table at the entry for you to fill out with your contact information should you want to register. We'd love to have you! Cards may be placed in the collection basket during Mass or left on the table.