

XXI Sunday in Ordinary Time



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, 22 August **The Queenship of the B.V.M.**

3:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

4 pm ... Our Parish Family

Sunday, 23 August **XXI Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30 am ... ☩Father Wilfred G. Demers by P. Jerome

9:30 am ... ☩Phil Beland by Linda Beland

4:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

5 pm ... ☩Lauren Rae Doherty by Kerri Stanley

Monday, 24 August **Saint Bartholomew, Apostle**

12 pm ... ☩Dorothy, ☩Ray, & ☩Roger Laroche by Lil Laroche

Tuesday, 25 August **Saint Bartholomew**

12 pm ... ☩Charlie Young by Esther & Don Leclerc

Wednesday, 26 August **Saint John Eudes**

11:30 am ... Confession & Reconciliation

12 pm ... ☩Charles Richard by Simone Richard

Thursday, 27 August **Saint Monica**

8:30 am ... Edith C. Clark (living) by Anne Clark

Friday, 28 August **Saint Augustine**

~RECTORY CLOSED~

5:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

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

Saturday, 29 August **Passion of Saint John the Baptist**

3:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

4 pm ... ☩Charles Richard by Simone Richard

Sunday, 30 August **XXII Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30 am ... ☩Eileen Audet by Irene Rioux

9:30 am ... ☩Marguerite Doherty by Barbara Doherty & Family

4:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation

5 pm ... Our Parish Family

Monday, 24 August

7—8 pm ... Food Pantry

Tuesday, 25 August

~NOTE~ Parish nurse is **CANCELED TODAY**



Mark your calendars! We are planning a Summertime Superheroes / Superheroes of Faith Parish Picnic on **Sunday, Sep. 13** following the 9:30am Mass. Watch for more info to come. Want to help out? Call the rectory at 623.2604 or email Kerri at secretary@saint-raphael-parish.com.



A shout out to Fr. Patrick Sullivan, O.S.B., for covering the Masses for the last two weeks while P. Jerome was on vacation. Thank you, also to Fr. Iain

MacLellan, O.S.B. and Fr. John Fortin, O.S.B., for celebrating the Sunday, Aug. 16 Masses. Finally, many thanks to Jane Daly for covering the office while Kerri Stanley was on vacation last week. We are blessed with truly wonderful people in our parish.



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE CURRENTLY SERVING IN THE U.S. ARMED FORCES. PLEASE KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS, ESPECIALLY:

- KENNETH BREUDER**
- PHILIP BREUDER**
- NICHOLAS DOHERTY**
- DANIELLE WELLS**

IF YOU HAVE A FAMILY MEMBER SERVING AND WOULD LIKE TO ADD HIS OR HER NAME TO OUR LIST, PLEASE LET US KNOW!



Sanctuary candle The sanctuary candle burns this week for the ☩**George Koeplinger** by Dave Bregar. If you would like to dedicate the Sanctuary Candle in memory of a loved one, please call the rectory at



Save the dates! The Fall Pastor's Class will meet on Tuesday, **Oct. 20 and 27, and Nov. 3 and 10 at 7pm.** To mark the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the new church at Saint Raphael Parish, Fr. Jerome will facilitate a discussion of the meaning of sacred space and church architecture. We will explore the biblical roots of worship space, Church teaching, basic history of ecclesiastical architecture, design and construction of the churches at Saint Raphael and Saint Anselm and at least one new church project under way now in NH. We expect to have a guest speaker or two as well. The class will be in The Pastor's Classroom in the parish hall. Please call the parish office at 623-2604 or email secretary@saint-raphael-parish.com if you plan to attend! We'd love to see you!

Despite his troubles, van Gogh shows the beauty, truth of God in nature



Vincent van Gogh
Self-portrait, 1887

Summer holidays and vacations, getaways and travel are always high points of the year for most of us – and it's **the same with monks**. It's an opportunity for me to return home to the **Berkshires** and to reconnect with family and friends, to check up on the news from **North Adams** and to appreciate some moments of prayer and relaxation. One of my favorite activities – certainly no surprise to anyone who knows me – is to sit out on the backyard patio, say morning prayer, look up at the mountains and out into the woods surrounding the house, undertake some reading and **enjoy a cup or two of coffee**.

Even though the “anti-gravity chair” and hammock beckon, I always feel I should “do” something over the break, something that is socially engaging and intellectually stimulating. Blessed with so **many cultural gems**, the Berkshire region provides an abundance of opportunity. If one is resourceful, one can procure cheap tickets. This summer's culture diet included four activities worth sharing.

First, there is nothing so enjoyable as spending an afternoon or evening on the lawns at **Tanglewood**, the summertime home of the **Boston Symphony in Lenox**. I heard “Tanglewood on Parade,” an annual event that included the movie scores composed by the beloved John Williams, retired conductor of the Boston Pops, and **Tchaikovsky's “1812 Overture,”** complete with Napoleonic fanfares, imperial Russian hymns and anthems and the blasts of several cannons.

My second and third slices of culture came on stage. In a few weeks, I'll be lecturing and discussing the implications of Shakespeare's *Henry V* with students in my political communication class at Saint Anselm College. Happily, the well-respected **Shakespeare & Co. in Lenox** included this famous history play in its summer line-up.

Amid the controversies that erupt over Henry V's attempt to **win the crown of France**, one learns a great deal about politics and the art of crafting a message. Later in my visit home, I saw the **Williamstown Theatre Festival**



The Sower, 1888

Rijksmuseum Kröller-Müller, Otterlo, Netherlands

production of Eugene O'Neill's *A Moon for the Misbegotten*. The WTF's innovative production tells the story not of unrequited love, but **unfulfilled love** simultaneously hampered and protected by lies, truths, stories, myths and illusions all expressed in language.

A visit to the nationally recognized Clark Art Institute in Williamstown to see a special exhibition on “**Whistler's Mother**” constituted my fourth foray in the world of Big Culture. Having worked in the 1980s as editorial director of The Lowell Sun, I've always been interested in Whistler (1834-1903), who was born in Lowell, MA.

James Abbott McNeill Whistler's portrait of his mother, Anna McNeill, painted while they were American émigrés in London, is a massive, wall-sized work that left me quite stunned. The strength and power of mothers everywhere is subtly evident throughout the painting, properly called *Arrangement in Grey and Black, No. 1*. The steadiness of her eyes, the jut of her jaw, the uprightness of her back and the simplicity of her attire suggest **a woman of formidable character: patient, upright, diligent and resolute**.

To my surprise, the Clark was also mounting a significant special exhibition on **Vincent van Gogh (1853-1890)** and his encounter with the **world of nature**. With more than **40 paintings** and **10 prints** gathered from museums and collectors around the country and the world, the exhibition was a rare opportunity to see how one important **Post-Impressionist** artist encountered and

expressed the natural world in the Netherlands, where he was born, and in France, where he lived most of his life. Much of his French work was done in **Brittany and Normandy** in the north, **Paris** and its environs and **Provence** in



Wheat Field with Cypresses, 1889

National Gallery, London

the south.

Van Gogh's observation of nature moves subtly but steadily from largely realistic depictions, in which he seems intent on simply representing what is “there,” to an impressionistic depiction, in which he attempts to show the psychic perception underlying a mere record of the visual stimuli of light, shadow, shape and color. From

painting to painting, and from era to era as he moves about the Netherlands and then France, van Gogh becomes **ever more aware of nature and humbled by it**.

The intensity of its beauty borders on the inexpressible for him – and yet, of course, as an artist, he challenges himself to give some account of its beauty.

Part of the tragedy of van Gogh's life was the increasing depression and isolation into which he sank; it was an alienation that would lead to his death by suicide. That was a significant loss for the world of art and for those who loved and cared for him. But van Gogh, as the Clark exhibition demonstrates, has left **a magnificent account of the power and beauty of God's created world**. For us, as Catholics, nature should inspire wonder at God's great love. He established such a magnificent world, and he gave it to men and women to steward and treasure. Likewise, nature – in its pristine and its human adaptations – should remind us that we share this world with our brothers and sisters. As a result, **we are called to encourage, hold accountable, serve and love each other**.

Perhaps had van Gogh been able to see into nature just a bit further, just a bit beyond it, he would have recognized the master and divine artist at work in nature – and in him.

From lawn concerts to stage performances to art on the wall and back to the patio at home and a steaming cup of coffee as a light wind blew and the birds chirped, that was my time away from the parish, with friends and family (always the best part) mixed in! Those two weeks in August constituted a pretty blessed break in my book!

© Rev. Jerome Joseph Day, O.S.B.

August 23, 2015

Readings for the week of August 23, 2015

Monday: Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145:10-13, 17-18; Jn 1:45-51
Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8; Ps 139:1-6; Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13; Ps 139:7-12ab; Mt 23:27-32
Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13; Ps 90:3-5a, 12-14, 17; Mt 24:42-51
Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8; Ps 97:1, 2b, 5-6, 10-12; Mt 25:1-13
Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Mk 6:17-29
Sunday: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8; Ps 15:2-5; Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27; Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23



We are getting there! Our **goal** this year is to raise **\$30,000 and we have raised \$9,645 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!



Saint Raphael Food Pantry On Monday, August 17, the food served **21** families and gave out **30** bags of groceries. Be sure to **LIKE** us on our new Facebook Page—**Saint Raphael Food Pantry /**

Hope Chest to get news and updates!



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



Thank you! The 10th Annual Baby Bottle Benefit is proving to be as exciting as in previous years! **Saint Raphael Parish raised \$2,146.62.** Thank you for your contribution that shows your love for life and to enable CareNet to uphold it each day at the centers and to provide services to women and families in our communities who are facing the crisis of an unplanned pregnancy.



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.**

Weekly Collection

August 9, 2015

Offertory Regular	\$ 3,077.00
Offertory Make-Up	477.00
Offertory Loose	536.00
Offertory Online Giving	337.00
Total:	\$ 4,427.00

Stewardship	\$ 1,837.00
Stewardship Loose	311.00
Total Stewardship:	\$ 2,148.00

Food Pantry \$ 240.00

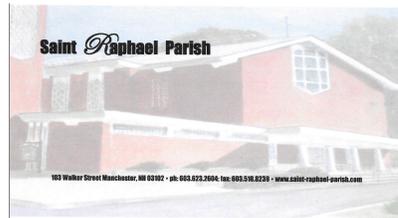
August 16, 2015

Offertory Regular	\$ 2,693.00
Offertory Make-Up	695.00
Offertory Loose	793.55
Offertory Online Giving	112.00
Total:	\$ 4,293.55

Stewardship	\$ 166.00
Stewardship Online Giving	60.00
Total Stewardship:	\$ 172.00

Assumption of Mary	\$ 1,059.00
Assumption of Mary Loose	396.00
Total Assumption of Mary	\$ 1,455.00

Thank you for your generosity!



Every Envelope Counts! Please remember to **return your weekly contribution envelopes** for the

times when you have been away from Saint Raphael this summer. The need to fulfill our obligation to support our parish is clear, and regular expenses occur whether we are in the pews here or not. Your help in this effort will be greatly appreciated!

When you need something to believe in, start with God's love.



XXI Sunday in Ordinary Time



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.**



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.

Diocese News

Summer Reception Funds Grants for Needy

The annual Summer Reception to support the Bishop's Charitable Assistance Fund will be held at Trudel House, official residence of the Bishop of Manchester, on **Thursday, Sept. 10 from 6—9pm**. Proceeds from the Summer Reception enable Bishop Libasci to make grants to non-profit organizations in New Hampshire that help those most in need. Attendance at the reception is open to all, but does require a donation. More than 400 attendees from all corners of the state celebrate the campaign's success at the Summer Reception each September. Information on tickets, donation levels and descriptions of all the grants made by Bishop Libasci and the BCAF can be found at www.catholicnh.org/bcaf or by calling [\(603\) 663-0166](tel:6036630166).

Annual Homeschool Mass Bishop Peter A. Libasci invites all homeschool students, parents, instructors and those interested in the ever-growing homeschool system in New Hampshire to attend a special Mass on **Thursday, Sept. 10, 2015 at 10am at Saint Joseph Cathedral, 145 Lowell Street, Manchester**. Questions are welcomed by Father Jason Jalbert at 663-0153 or e-mail Becky Vinson at rvinson@rcbm.org.

Day of Renewal II: *"Father, that they may be one so that the world might believe that you sent me."* (John 17:21) with nationally known and sought after speaker and evangelist DR. TOM CURRAN. Join us at Ste. Marie Church, Manchester on **SATURDAY, OCT. 3, 9am-3pm** (registration starts at 8:00) for three workshops and ministry opportunities: Lord, show us the gift of unity (heal our wounds); Lord, take away the barriers to unity (how to respond to spiritual warfare); Going Deeper into the Power of the Spirit (empowerment for the mission). Come experience sound catholic teaching, lively praise and worship, and the power of the Spirit flowing through the community. Suggested donation: 18 and over \$20, youth \$10. Scholarships available. Bring your own lunch; coffee, water, donuts, cookies provided. Many excellent resources available for sale. To register send your name and # of adults and youth, address, tel, email. Make checks payable to Pat Hurd, 19 Dora St., Nashua, NH 03060. For more information call Pat at 882-1503,



PRO-LIFE BANQUET FEATURING JOSHUA EDMUNDS PROPONENT, PILLARS OF PERSONHOOD

New Hampshire Right to Life invites you to a fundraising banquet featuring **JOSHUA EDMUNDS**, Director of Education at Georgia Right to Life, and a university lecturer. He is a passionate proponent of PERSONHOOD, the key to pro life victory.

October 8, Reception: 5:30 p.m., Dinner 6:45-9 p.m.
Executive Court, South Mammoth Road, Manchester.

Advance reservations only
More information on the website at www.nhrtl.org
or call Jane Cormier, 603-230-8136



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