

XXIII Sunday in Ordinary Time



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, 5 September **Blessed Teresa of Calcutta**

3:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation
4 pm ... ✠ Arthur Smet (37th Anniv.) by Cynthia Hobbs

Sunday, 6 September **XXIII Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30 am ... ✠ Jeannine R. Untiet by Lionel & Lillian Coulon
9:30 am ... ✠ Monica Morin by Claude & Irene Morin
4:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation
5 pm ... Our Parish Family

Monday, 7 September **Happy Labor Day!!**

~RECTORY CLOSED~

9 am ... ✠ Charlie Young by Eileen & Dennis Smith

Tuesday, 8 September **The Nativity of the B.V.M.**

12 pm ... Kathy Gunther (living) by the Pereira family

Wednesday, 9 September **Saint Peter Claver**

11:30 am ... Confession & Reconciliation
12 pm ... Jen Pereira (living) by Kathy Gunther

Thursday, 10 September

8:30 am ... ✠ Eileen Audet by Claire Sasseville

Friday, 11 September

~RECTORY CLOSED~

5:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation
6 pm ... ✠ Phil Beland by Linda Beland

Saturday, 12 September **The Most Holy Name of Mary**

3:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation
4 pm ... ✠ Katherine Jaskolka by Al & Barbara Heidenreich

Sunday, 13 September **XXIV Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30 am ... ✠ Clayton Raymond by Connie Raymond
9:30 am ... Our Parish Family
4:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation
5 pm ... ✠ Frank Connolly by James & Joan Connolly

Monday, 7 September

7—8 pm ... Food Pantry **CLOSED**

Tuesday, 8 September

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

Thursday, 10 September

7 pm ... Knitting Group—Church Conference Room



The office will be closed on Monday in observance of Labor Day. Likewise, the food pantry will be closed. **Mass will be celebrated at 9 am in the chapel.**



On Aug. 23, **Fiona Kathleen Mullen**, daughter of Tim Mullen and Kate (Jarvis) Mullen, was baptized into the Roman Catholic Church by P. Jerome, O.S.B., our pastor. *Let us strive, by*

our word and example, to create an environment for them to come to know the love of God and the meaning of "being church."



Welcome back Saint Benedict Academy

new and returning students and staff!



Our **ANNUAL ALTAR SERVER OUTING** will be **Saturday, Sep. 19 at 11 am**, at Canobie Lake Park. We will meet at the rectory at 10 am for carpoolers, or altar servers can meet us at the entrance of Canobie Lake Park at 11 am. Please **RSVP this coming week** to Kerri at secretary@saint-raphael-parish.com so we can get a count of who will attend. Thank



Sanctuary candle The sanctuary candle burns this week for all **Veterans, living and deceased.**



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!

Saint Mary of the Angels: Victories, struggles 10 years after Katrina

When **Hurricane Katrina**, one of the worst natural disasters to hit the U.S., struck New Orleans on Aug. 28, 2005, an old Franciscan friar, the pastor of **Saint Mary of the Angels Parish** in the Upper Ninth ward, was determined that he wasn't going anywhere but down on his knees to pray for the city and people he loved. And when the storm was over, he got up and was on site to begin helping his parishioners rebuild their lives.

Only **Father Bart Pax, O.F.M.**, discovered that some three feet of water was inside his church, his parish school was devastated and the entire neighborhood was a virtual ghost town (*photo right bottom*). But Father Bart, who died in 2009, already beloved, became a local hero for his determination and resolve. Less than a year after Katrina's storm surge breached the levees protecting New Orleans to flood the city, Father Bart reopened Saint Mary for the Easter Vigil – and **the stand, made in Africa**, that supports the Paschal Candle, symbol of the Risen Christ, became a sign of the city's resurrection too (*photos right top*). That same resolve has remained at Saint Mary's as the parish and the surrounding community marked **Katrina's 10th anniversary**.

Shortly after the hurricane, Saint Raphael, more than 1,300 miles northeast of New Orleans, was one of the parishes that responded to a call through the Diocese of Manchester, to **twin with a New Orleans parish**. Perhaps because we are an "angel" parish operated by a religious order, we were linked to Saint Mary. During the special national collection for New Orleans relief, Saint Raphael contributed **more than \$13,000, followed by an additional \$3,500** given specifically over the past decade for Saint Mary through our stewardship fund. Saint Mary uses a **Lectionary**, the book of Mass readings, that was a **gift from Saint Raphael**. Of course, the parish was mentioned often in our petitions at Mass during the years immediately after Katrina. The hurricane was the deadliest natural



had to flee north in Louisiana, as well as to Texas, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia. Property damage from the Super Dome, where the New Orleans Saints play, to Saint Mary, located at 3501 North Miro Ave., amounted to **more than \$108 billion**, the costliest on record.

Earlier this week, I had the opportunity to speak with **Fr. Dennis Bosse, O.F.M.**, the current pastor of Saint Mary, about the progress the parish has made since Katrina. I asked him what grade he would give the parish in terms of its recovery.

"I'd give Saint Mary a B, I guess. We've made a lot of progress, but there is still a long way to go," Fr. Dennis (*photo left*) said, adding that the support, prayer and encouragement the parish has received from the communities with which it is twinned or which support it have been gratifying and occasions "a real feeling of solidarity."



One of the biggest challenges he faces is running a parish on half-empty. Each weekend, some 225 people attend Mass at Saint Mary's, but that's only about half the number the parish had prior to Katrina. People are returning to New Orleans, but the Upper Ninth still faces a population deficit. Saint Mary is a largely African-American congregation, and of those who attend, about half are "commuter parishioners who live elsewhere in the city or the area, but regard us as their parish."

Among the pre-Katrina parishioners who remained in New Orleans, some have re-

established themselves elsewhere in the city and have joined other parishes. The **parish misses its school**, closed by the Archdiocese of New Orleans after the hurricane and flood because so few students were available to attend. Instead, Saint Mary has renovated its school into a **community center** that features a Catholic Charities Head Start program for youngsters and a College Track program for low-income high school students who are mentored and tutored in an effort to enroll and fund them in college and university studies (*photo lower center*). This past year, all the participants were accepted at two- and four-year colleges.

Vanessa Matthews, director of religious education at Saint Mary for the past five years, said the parish has "done pretty well" despite the challenges. More than 800,000 people in the New Orleans area were displaced by Katrina, and **the city is pushing toward 400,000 to regain its pre-Katrina population**.

"We're rebuilding and reclaiming Saint Mary," she said (*photo left*). "We're looking for new families and caring for those who have remained. We have a lot of people in the 60-to-80-age group. The neighborhood continues to look better and better, though there are pockets of Katrina. New families are moving in, purchasing homes and fixing them up. But you can find nice homes next to derelict ones, kind of a **snaggletooth smile**."

But the city is smiling after tough times. Police corruption has been cleaned up and the force is working hard to fight drugs and violence, Father Dennis explained, though much remains to be done.

"Your contributions have made a difference," said Ms. Matthews, "and we thank you for your prayers too, **for never forgetting us**. Prayers are the most valuable gifts, and we know God answers our prayers."

She mentioned the devotion throughout New Orleans to Mary, under her title **Our Lady of Prompt Succor**, to whom the city prayed for deliverance from destruction during the War of 1812.

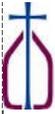
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September 6, 2015

Readings for the week of September 6, 2015

Monday: Col 1:24 — 2:3; Ps 62:6-7, 9; Lk 6:6-11, or, for Labor Day, any readings from the Mass “For the Blessing of Human Labor,” nos. 907-911
Tuesday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6 Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 (18-23)
Wednesday: Col 3:1-11; Ps 145:2-3, 10-13ab; Lk 6:20-26
Thursday: Col 3:12-17; Ps 150:1b-6; Lk 6:27-38
Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Ps 16:1b-2a, 5, 7-8, 11; Lk 6:39-42
Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17; Ps 113:1b-7; Lk 6:43-49
Sunday: Is 50:5-9a; Ps 116:1-6, 8-9; Jas 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35



Catholic Charities

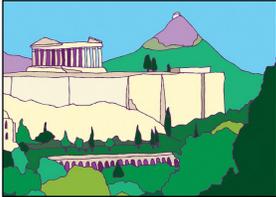
We are getting there! Our **goal** this year is to raise **\$30,000 and we have raised \$9,645 to date!** You can give through a pledge, become a sustaining donor with a monthly gift or give once a year. **Every dollar is important. Every gift brings hope.** As you're considering your donation, please keep in mind that Catholic Charities serves 1-in-13 people throughout NH. To do that, we need your continued support. Thank you!



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



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.*



OCTOBER PILGRIMAGE! LAST CALL!

A few openings remain on our parish Routes/Roots of Faith pilgrimage to Greece, the Aegean isles and the Aegean coast of Turkey Oct. 7-18. Led by P. Jerome, O.S.B., with local guides, cost is \$3,495 (air, cruise, hotels, some meals, etc.) We will travel in the 'footsteps of Saint Paul,'

with visits to Athens, Crete, Santorini, Patmos, Rhodes, Istanbul, Ephesus and more. If you or friends would like to join us, or wish further details, please contact Kerri Stanley at the parish office at 603.623.2604 THIS WEEK.



PRAY
FOR OUR MILITARY

Thank you to Those serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. Please keep them in your prayers, especially: **KENNETH BREUDER, PHILIP BREUDER, NICHOLAS DOHERTY AND 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!

Weekly Collection

August 30, 2015

Offertory Regular	\$ 6,164.00
Offertory Make-Up	691.00
Offertory Loose	575.00
Offertory Online Giving	140.00
Total:	\$ 7,570.00
Stewardship	\$ 105.00
Food Pantry / Hope Chest	\$ 20.00

Thank you for your generosity!



Saint Raphael Food Pantry

On Monday, August 31, the food served **25 families** and gave out **38 bags** of groceries. We are in need of paper bags and canned fruit. Be sure to LIKE us on

our new Facebook Page—**Saint Raphael Food Pantry / Hope Chest** to get news and updates!



PARISH PICNIC Mark your calendars! We plan a Summertime Superheroes / Superheroes of Faith Parish Picnic **Sunday, Sep. 13** from 11am—3pm. **We welcome your help to make this a fun-filled, successful, memorable event.** Have a pop up tent? Can we borrow it for the event, please? Call the rectory at 623.2604 or email Kerri at secretary@saint-raphael-parish.com for more info on how you can help. See the flyer in this week's bulletin.

We hope you can attend and would be grateful if you could bring an item listed according to your last name:

- Last names A—D - Pasta or potato salad
- Last names E—K - Fruit salad, watermelon
- Last names L—P - Garden salad
- Last names Q—Z - Dessert item

XXIII 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! Cards on the table at the entry invite you to fill out 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

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 St., 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, or email PHURD1503@AOL.COM. Sponsored



PRO-LIFE BANQUET

New Hampshire Right to Life

invites you to a fundraising banquet featuring

JOSHUA EDMUNDS

Director of Education at Georgia Right to Life.

A university lecturer, Joshua Edmunds is a passionate proponent of PERSONHOOD, the key to pro-life victory.

Oct. 8, 2015, 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



The Sisters of Holy

Cross Fall Fair will

take place on

Saturday, Oct. 17 from

9am—3:30 pm at Holy

Cross Center, 357 Island Pond Road, Manchester. There will be a Penny Sale, crafts, games and more!



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