

## Mass Intentions

### Sat., April 2

Acts 4:13-21; Ps 118:1, 14-21; Mk 16:9-15

4 pm ... ☩ Mary E. Deeg by Jeff Langan

### Sun., April 3

### Divine Mercy Sunday

Acts 5:12-16; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19; Jn 20:19-31

7:30 am ... ☩ Simone T. Auger by Pat Tremblay

9:30 am ... ☩ William J. Chartier by David & Alice Chartier

4:30 pm ... *Penance & Reconciliation*

5 pm ... ☩ Gary Dame by Therese Dame

### Mon., April 4

### The Annunciation of the Lord

Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

12 pm ... ☩ Tommy Barnett by Jack & Colleen Byrne

### Tue., April 5

### Saint Vincent Ferrer

Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15

12 pm ... ☩ Fred Gunther by the Pereira Family

7 pm ... Confirmation Mass

### Wed., April 6

Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21

11:30 am ... *Penance & Reconciliation*

12 pm ... ☩ Dennis Delay by Don & Esther Leclerc

### Thur., April 7

### Saint John Baptist de la Salle

Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36

8:30 am ... ☩ Mary Marszal by Lena Krager

### Fri., April 8

Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15

5:30 pm ... *Penance & Reconciliation*

6 pm ... ☩ Maurice Doucet & ☩ Eileen Audet by Lionel & Lil Coulon

### Sat., April 9

Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Jn 6:16-21

4 pm ... Our Parish Family

### Sun., April 10

### III Sunday of Easter

Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13; Rv 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19 [1-14]

7:30 am ... ☩ David & ☩ Anne Foley by Connie Raymond

9:30 am ... ☩ Linda Simmons by Rita Montpelier

4:30 pm ... *Penance & Reconciliation*

5 pm ... ☩ Monica Celeste Morin by Tom & Alice Benard

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Mon., April 4

6:30—8 pm ... Youth Ministry/Gr 6-12

7—8 pm ... Food Pantry

### Tue., April 5

12:30 pm ... Parish Nurse

7 pm ... Confirmation

### Thur., April 7

6:30 pm ... Catholic War Vets / Wives

7:30 pm ... Choir Practice



Looking to clean out that "extra" room, attic, basement or just reclaim some closet space? Maybe you're

collecting items to sell on eBay, or you just LOVE a good bargain... Look no further than the **Trinity High School Yard Sale!** The Class of 2019 will be hosting our annual event on **Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> from 7am – 12pm.** We will gladly accept "gently used" donations (no adult clothing, computers, televisions or nursery furniture please) on Friday, April 15<sup>h</sup> from 7:30am – 5:30pm Contact [zolkos@trinity-hs.org](mailto:zolkos@trinity-hs.org) with any questions.

### The 3rd Annual Catholic Literature Conference

will be held **Saturday, Apr. 30, 2016 from 9:30am—4pm** at St. John the Evangelist, Christ the King Parish in Concord, NH. Guest speakers, Dr. Gary Bouchard, Fr. Michael Kerper, Dr. William Fahey and Joseph Pearce will discuss great works from a Catholic perspective. Tickets are \$20 before April 20 and \$25 on April 20 or after and includes lunch. Student prices are \$10 at the door. To purchase tickets and for more info., please visit [www.thomasmorecollege.edu/books-lectures/catholic-literature-conference-2016](http://www.thomasmorecollege.edu/books-lectures/catholic-literature-conference-2016).

**Thank you!** Many thanks to Abbot Matthew, Fr. Iain of Saint Anselm Abbey, and Fr. John D'Orazio, son of George and Linda D'Orazio, for covering Masses last week and this weekend while Fr. Jerome attended a conference at Notre Dame College. Thank you also to George D'Orazio and his family for coordinating and hosting the Divine Mercy dinner following the 4pm Mass on April 2. All are welcome to attend.



## The New Saint Raphael Follies & Revue

was so popular last year that

the show will be back again this year. Save the date! **Friday, June 3, 2016**, at Saint Anselm College's Dana Center. Some great silent auction raffles this year! Sponsorship opportunities too. **Please begin planning your acts and numbers!** Watch upcoming bulletins for further

### Confirmation Class



## Sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit

Please pray for the members of our Confirmation Class, who will make their Confirmation on Tuesday,

April 5, the Solemnity of Transitus of Saint Benedict, along with Confirmandi from Parish of the Transfiguration and



Congratulations to **Tairiq Arthur Phillips**, son of Nicole Gardner, who was baptized at the Easter Vigil last week by P. Jerome, O.S.B., 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."**

## Weekly Collection

### Weekend of March 26-27, 2016

Regular Offertory	\$3,913.00
Make-Up Offertory	768.00
Loose Offertory	
266.00 Online Parish Giving	
<b>255.00 Total</b>	
	<b>\$5,202.00</b>

**Stewardship 160.00** \$

Easter \$7,302.00

Easter Loose 736.85  
**Total Easter \$8,038.85**

**Food Pantry \$1,244.00**



**Sanctuary candle** The sanctuary candle burns this week for ☩ **Phil Beland** by Linda Beland.



### Saint Raphael Food Pantry

On Monday, March 28, the food pantry served **26** families and gave

out **39** bags of groceries We need Spaghetti's, fruit, macaroni, and can always use brown paper bags! Thank you!



**The 2016 Annual Campaign begins April 9, 2016.** Our goal this year is to raise \$26,000. Watch for further information in the bulletin.

## The Blessing of Community

As some of you already know, in a few months I will be moving to Virginia, going back to a place that I have called home since I was a teen. As a person who moved six times between different cities, cultures and languages by the time I was in third grade, stability and security have always been important to me. It takes a while for me to make trusted connections and put down roots, and so I've found that uprooting myself after almost thirty years in New Hampshire is in many ways a scary proposition (not to mention an exhausting task!).



I've lived in several different faith communities during my life, and each community has fostered something that I have carried along into my new community: in the Episcopal Church where I grew up, I gained a love of liturgy and music; in the Evangelical Covenant Church where I worshipped for almost twenty-five years, I gained a love of Scripture and ministry; and in the Catholic Church where I now worship I have gained a love of the Divine Mystery that we encounter in Jesus and through the communion of saints. Each faith community has strengthened the certainty of divine mercy for those who put their trust in the Lord.

There's a verse given to me years ago that often comes to mind when I am stressed, "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." (Jer. 29:11) Out of context, the first verse implies a certain passive trust in accepting God's plan for our lives. I'm not a passive person, so what I like most about this verse is what follows: "Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the Lord, and I

will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations." (vv. 12-13)

The context shows us that the verse so often quoted is actually all about process, about an interweaving of God's action and ours, both individual and plural. If we aren't actively engaged in searching for God through our daily circumstances, we may not notice God's blessings or be able to bear fruit out of the benefits God has given us. And if we aren't doing this as people who are actively engaged in community, we miss out as well. God is all

about relationship with community as well as with individuals.

The week before Easter, I gave a talk to the Women's Guild at *Our Lady of Mercy* in Merrimack. For several weeks, I read and reflected on all the passages in all the Gospels that described Jesus' movement towards the cross as well as the post-resurrection appearances. The more I reflected on the passages, the more I realized how important community was to Jesus and his ministry, concisely stated in his final commandment to his disciples as they sat around the table at the Last Supper: "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other." (Jn. 15:16-17)

If you think about it, every bit of Jesus' ministry took place in community. He gathered together a team of twelve men whom he taught as they traveled and ministered to those in need. He sent his disciples out in teams of two to preach the Good News and to heal those who were receptive to divine mercy, a tradition of team ministry that was continued in the early church and for many centuries beyond that. With the

exception of Jesus' taking time aside to pray and his personal post-resurrection appearance to Mary of Magdala, Jesus is always with people, walking, talking, and having dinner or chatting to someone he meets at the well, ministering to people in ordinary and everyday life as well as at Temple and synagogue.

Part of what undergirds all strong faith communities is a sense of belonging as well as a sense of friendship with fellow community members. We gain strength from knowing that we are loved; as Christians, we are asked to bring the presence of Christ's love and mercy to others. But just as our faith communities feed and sustain us, so too do we need to feed and sustain our faith communities; otherwise, they become depleted over time. Along with the prophet Jeremiah, we need to see that a confidence in God's good promise necessarily leads to an engagement in God's work in our parishes as well as outside of them. A strong community keeps us balanced by



helping us gain and retain perspective (just think of saints Peter and Paul, arguing over the Gentile converts until they gained clarity and could move forward with mutual support). By being with others who share our core beliefs but who are not clones of ourselves, we can be supported and yet still open to all that God has planned for us. We are created for community: "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." (Gen. 2:18)

My four years at Saint Raphael's have been a great blessing in many ways - thank you for welcoming me into this parish, for supporting and sustaining me in ministry at Saint Raphael's, and for giving me gifts of the Spirit to carry forward into the