

Mass Intentions

Sat., August 20 **Saint Bernard**
Ez 43:1-7a; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Mt 23:1-12
4 pm ... ☩ Bob McGrail by Sylvia & Cecile Dupuis

Sun., August 21 **XXI Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Is 66:18-21; Ps 117:1, 2; Heb 12:5-7, 11-13; Lk 13:22-30
7:30 am ... ☩ Robert "Doc" Reel by his family and friends
9:30 am ... ☩ Lucille M. Kelley by the Kelley family

Mon., August 22 **The Queenship of the B.V.M.**
2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12; Ps 96:1-5; Mt 23:13-22
12 pm ... ☩ Elise Lambert by Bob & Carmelle LaRoche

Tue., August 23 **Saint Rose of Lima**
2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17; Ps 96:10-13; Mt 23:23-26
12 pm ... ☩ Lauren Rae Doherty by Kerri Stanley

Wed., August 24 **Saint Bartholomew**
Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145:10-13, 17-18; Jn 1:45-51
12 pm ... ☩ Margaret Moran by Margaret-Ann Moran

Thur., August 25 **Saints Louis and Joseph Calasanz**
1 Cor 1:1-9; Ps 145:2-7; Mt 24:42-51
8:30 am ... Mary Boccoli (living) by Anne Clark

Fri., August 26 ~ OFFICE CLOSED ~
1 Cor 1:17-25; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11; Mt 25:1-13
6 pm ... ☩ Kathleen McNamara Cunningham by the Norton and Newton Families

Sat., August 27 **Saint Monica**
1 Cor 1:26-31; Ps 33:12-13, 18-21; Mt 25:14-30
4 pm ... ☩ Charles Richard (2nd Anniv.) by Simone Richard

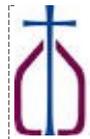
Sun., August 28 **XXII Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29; Ps 68:4-7, 10-11; Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a; Lk 14:1, 7-14 **7:30**
am ... ☩ Lorraine Martel by Lionel & Lillian Coulon
9:30 am ... ☩ Edward Heroux by Bridget Heroux
5 pm ... Our Parish Family

Weekly Collection

Weekend of August 14, 2016

Regular Offertory	\$2,833.00
Make-Up Offertory	481.00
Loose Offertory	340.55
Online Parish Giving	200.00
Total	\$3,854.55

Stewardship	\$3,899.10
Loose Stewardship	240.60
Online Stewardship	60.00
Total Stewardship	\$4,199.70



2016 Annual Campaign
Our goal this year is \$26,000. Thank you to those who have supported Catholic Charities. To date, your gift has helped us raise **\$14,605** towards our goal. **We are more than halfway there!** Envelopes are located at the back of the church. Thank you for supporting Catholic Charities New Hampshire. Please help us reach our goal!



Summertime livin' is easy! But we still need to attend Mass each week. If you are traveling, be sure to find the times of Masses in the area. You can check out www.masstimes.org for such information. Likewise, please remember to return your weekly contribution envelopes for times when you will be away from Saint Raphael. The need to fulfill our obligation to support our parish is clear, and regular expenses occur whether we are in the pews or not. Your help in this effort will be greatly appreciated!



Routes / Roots of Faith Pilgrimage—Fall, 2016 Stay tuned for details regarding a 3-day pilgrimage as we continue to celebrate the Jubilee Year of Mercy. The National Shrine of the Divine Mercy, The National Shrine of the North American Martyrs, The Norman Rockwell Museum, and Yankee Candle Village are among the stops on the itinerary on or about Oct. 9—11th. Full details to follow soon!



Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will offer their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at Saint Raphael Parish on **Sept. 14, 2016**. See the flyers at the back of the church for details and registration info.



Sanctuary candle The sanctuary candle burns this week for **All those who serve in law enforcement.**



Parishioners, Sacristans, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Ushers...please remember to dress with care and consideration for our weekly worship.



Altar Servers Needed! The Altar Server's Ministry is a unique one in the Catholic Church. Other than priests and deacons, no one else is allowed to play so closely a part in the preparation of the Eucharist. Your participation as an Altar Server is special. When you serve the priests and deacons, you serve the people of God, and above all, you serve Christ. Servers should have received their First Eucharist before they start serving. If you are interested, please call Kerri in the office at 623.2604. Thank you!



Knights of Columbus Blood Drive Mark your calendar for **Thur., September 22, 1-6 pm**, in the Parish Hall. The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a blood drive. Blood is in short supply. All blood donations would be greatly appreciated!
Note that the original date of Fri., Aug. 26 has been POSTPONED to Sept.



September training We will be having a training opportunity for Sacristans, EMS, and Lectors on **Sept 18 at 3pm**. This will be a refresher for current parishioners in these roles. All sacristans, EMS and lectors are strongly encouraged to attend. Further information will follow via

Sign up to host Vocation Chalice or Pilgrim Virgin statue

Parishioners and friends of the parish are encouraged to sign up for either or both of these opportunities for two-week intervals. Find out more by reading about it on our website, www.saint-raphael-parish.com. Please **call the office at 623.2604** to make arrangements. This is a great opportunity to develop prayer in your home and heart, to honor Mary and to ask God for the gift of new




Serene image of Christ the Redeemer blesses the world's Olympians



Ever since the ancient Greeks built the **Colossus of Rhodes** to guard the harbor on that Aegean island, mankind has been fascinated

Worker on the arm of Christ

by statues of great size. They represent divine beings, mythological figures, human life from the home to the battlefield, and historical personages, but statuary of epic size often serves as a **memorial or a monument**, designed to inspire, teach or even dominate. Past events provide meaning in the present and provoke renewed action in the future. Mount Rushmore is a good example. Sometimes even natural formations seem like statuary to us – and no one from New Hampshire needs instruction on the significance of the **Old Man of the Mountain**, which collapsed into rubble in 2003 but continues to exist in memory and iconography as a symbol of the Yankee virtues of the Granite State.

For the past three weeks, athletes from around the world participating in the **Summer Games of the XXXI Olympiad in Rio de Janeiro** have had the opportunity not only to inspect the stadiums, racing tracks, waterways, swimming pools, playing fields, gymnasias and other facilities the Brazilian government built for them, but also the Olympic Village and the celebrated Olympic torch burning night and day.

If the athletes, coaches, trainers and spectators look up from the beautiful **Ipanema Beach**, made famous by the 1962/1964 bossa nova hit song, they will also see one other classic Rio landmark. A **stunning statue of Christ the Redeemer** presides over Rio and all **Brazil, the largest Catholic nation in the world**. With the arms of Christ stretched out in love, reminiscent of his sacrifice on the Cross, the massive Art Deco figure has become as much a symbol of Brazil as the Statue of Liberty is an icon of New York and all of the United States.

Designed by French sculptor **Paul Landowski** and constructed by Brazilian



Statue of Christ the Redeemer overlooks Rio de Janeiro In Brazil



Statue of Christ the Redeemer looms over Maracanã Stadium In Rio de Janeiro

engineer **Heitor da Silva Costa**, the statue is 30 meters high, just two feet shy of 100 feet. The face of the statue, which shows a majestic and serene image of Our Lord, was designed by Romanian artist **Gheorghe Leonida**. Adding in the statue's base, it rises to 38 meters, or 125 feet. It's not just its own impressive size that makes the statue so awe-inspiring, it's also its location. Begun in 1922 and completed in 1931, Christ the Redeemer statue rests **atop Corcovado**, the sugarloaf-shaped mountain that at 700 meters, or 2,300 feet, overlooks Rio's elegant boulevards, tony shopping districts, palatial homes, Olympic Park and fun-filled beaches and sprawling *favelas*, slums that house so many of the poor. The statue proclaims to all mankind, Olympians with gold medals and orphaned youngsters who turn to crime to survive, that Christ's love is eternal, his mercy always ready. The image shows a youthful, muscular Jesus, who might easily compete with the Olympians below in the city! I wonder, did Jesus ever race the lads in the Galilee long ago?

Weighing some 635 metric tons, the statue is **made of reinforced concrete and covered with soapstone**, which gives the work its soft, sleek appearance. Because of its height and exposure, it has been struck by lightning periodically, but it has been repaired and restored often. In 2006, a chapel was constructed at the statue's base, and the Rio archdiocese permits Catholic baptisms and weddings there. Many young couples experience a kind of spiritual high at a wedding or a baptism, and the chapel and the perspective from the feet of Christ the Redeemer rather make such exhilaration inevitable!

Among the world's massive statues, and there are many of Christ and other figures, the only one I've ever seen is **Lady Liberty in New York Harbor**.

At a height of 151 feet, 1 inch, or

46 meters, foot to torch, and including the base, 305 feet, 1 inch, or 93 meters, "Liberty Enlightening the World" was completed in 1885 as a gift from France to honor the centennial of American independence. French artist Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi designed the statue, with Maurice Koechlin as the principal engineer, with assistance from Gustave Eiffel, Richard Morris Hunt and Eugène Viollet-le-Duc. Liberty

is taller and older than the image of Christ the Redeemer. In her welcoming newcomers to America, Liberty symbolically does what Jesus taught.

Another statue that always has impressed me, though I've never actually seen it, is the massive figure of **Mother Russia in Volgograd** in Russia. One of the premier World War II monuments of the former



Statue of Liberty in NYC

Soviet Union, the statue depicts Mother Russia wielding a sword, rallying her sons and daughters and striding forth to meet Nazi aggressors. The statue commemorates a pivotal battle of World War II, the

Battle of Stalingrad, the previous name for Volgograd. Formally titled "**The Motherland Calls**," the statue was dedicated in 1967, when it was the tallest sculpture in the world. Mother Russia measures 85 meters, or 279

feet, from sword point to base. Yevgeny Vuchetich was principal sculptor, with Nikolai Nikitich as primary engineer.

Throughout the world, a surprising number of massive statues rise up. **The largest are in Asia and depict the Buddha** in various poses, and these figures often are much larger than the ones mentioned here! My own tastes in art are **a little more modest** than monumental figures, and besides, I'd have to have the rectory roof raised a lot more than the abbey, parish or city would ever permit! But I have to admit, I rather like the idea of the serene figure of Christ blessing a city and presiding over an event meant to promote peace and harmony.

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'Motherland Calls,'