

SAINT RAPHAEL PARISH

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024

Benedictine Monks of Saint Anselm Abbey

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

OVERJOYED

AT SEEING
THE STAR

MATTHEW 2:10

January 7, 2024 | The Epiphany of the Lord

Saint Raphael Parish Office Hours

Parish Office Hours

Monday—Thursday

9:00am to Noon & 12:30 to 2:00 pm

And by appointment

Pastor: Father Anselm Smedile, OSB

Parish Phone: (603) 623-2604

E-Mail: SRP@st-raphael-parish.org

Address

103 Walker Street

Manchester, NH 03102

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:00 pm (Vigil)

Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:30 am, 5:00 pm

Weekday Mass Schedule Mon–Fri 12 Noon

Holy Days 12 Noon and 6:30 pm

Reconciliation

Saturday 3:00 pm to 3:45 pm Sunday 4:00 pm to 4:45 pm and by appointment



The New Year

At the New Year,
We hope the new season
Brings new flowers and new joys.
But-come what may-
Those who suffer and worry for Love
Will live joyful lives.

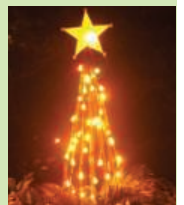
Love's rich power is creative and friendly.
Love is kind and has a sweet temperament.
Love soothes with compensation
Every new sadness.

Love knows the repeated blows
I must endure for her.
From now on, though, I'll rely on
Love.
Totally,
With a sad heart, joyful.
-Hadewijch, *Poems in Stanzas*



A Special Thank You!

We wish to take this opportunity express our thanks and appreciation to all who work so hard to make our Christmas Liturgies such beautiful celebrations. All those in Music Ministry, all Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers, Altar servers, Sacristans, those who make flower donations and the fabulous Environment/Decoration Team.
-Father Anselm, OSB



January Book Discussion: Please join the Parish Book Discussion Group in reading *This Other Eden* by Paul Harding. We'll meet on **Saturday, January 20, 2024**, at 10:30 downstairs in the parish hall.



Food Pantry

Our current food pantry needs are for **canned goods** for our neighbors. Please drop off donations either in the entryway of the Church or at the Rectory during office hours.



Parish Offertory

December 23-24, 2023

Regular Offertory	\$	4,578.00
Stewardship	\$	27.00
Holy Day	\$	12.00
On Line Giving Total	\$	1,582.00
Christmas	\$	10,397.00
Food Pantry	\$	10.00



The Food Pantry will be open on Monday, January 8, 2024 and closed on Monday, January 15th in observance of the Martin Luther King holiday.

January 7, 2024 | The Epiphany of the Lord

Monday, January 8, 2024 Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11 or Acts 10:34-38 or 1Jn 5:1-9
Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 Mk 1:7-11

Tuesday, January 9, 2024 1 Sm 1:9-20 1 Sam 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday, January 10, 2024 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20 Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10 Mk 1:29-39

Thursday, January 11, 2024 1 Sm 4:1-11 Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25 Mk 1:40-45

Friday, January 12, 2024 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a Ps 89:16-17, 18-19 Mk 2:1-12

Saturday, January 13, 2024 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1 Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 Mk 2:13-17

Sunday, January 14, 2024 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19 Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20 Jn 1:35-42



Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday, January 6 ~ The Epiphany of the Lord (Vigil)

4:00pm: +Donald Morin

Sunday, January 7 ~ Epiphany of the Lord

7:30am: Our Parish Family

9:30am: +Joseph Dambach (8th Anniversary) by Christine & Jack Dambach

5:00pm: +Daniel Richardson by Chris & Kevin Powers

Monday, January 8 ~ The Baptism of the Lord

12:00pm: +John Joseph Gallas, Sr. by the Sisco Family

Tuesday, January 9 ~ Weekday

12:00pm: +Esther Leclerc by Susan & Reggie Sharon

Wednesday, January 10 ~ Weekday

12:00pm: +Robert Herron by Malachy McCarthy

Thursday, January 11 ~ Weekday

12:00pm: Vocations

Friday, January 12 ~ Weekday

12:00pm: +Gerard & Madeleine Morin by the Family

Saturday, January 13 ~ Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Vigil)

4:00pm: +Claire L. Rousseau by Cynthia Hobbs

Sunday, January 14 ~ Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30am: +Carmeline Healy by the Family

9:30am: Our Parish Family

5:00pm: +Charles Quinby by Brent Maynard

Parish Event Calendar

Saturday, January 6

Sunday, January 7

Monday, January 8

5:30pm Food Pantry

Tuesday, January 9

11:30am Parish Nurse (Church Conference Room)

Wednesday, January 10

6:00pm Young Peoples AA Meeting (Parish Hall)

6:30pm SRP Knitting Group (Rectory)

6:30pm Knights of Columbus (Chapel)

6:30pm Parish Council (Baptistery)

Thursday, January 11

7:00pm NH Pipes & Drum (Gym)

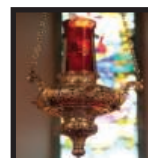
7:30pm Choir Rehearsal (Church)

Friday, January 12

Saturday, January 13

Considering a Vocation?

"For out of you shall come forth a ruler who will shepherd My people." Is Christ calling you forth out of your comfort zone to serve Him in others as a sister, brother, or priest? Talk to your priest or reach out to Fr. Matt Mason, the Vocations Director at 603-663-0196 or mmason@rcbm.org.



*The sanctuary candle burns
this week for
+Arleen Ackerson*

January 7, 2024 | *The Epiphany of the Lord*

2024 Special Occasion Flower Memorials for the Altar

There are several dates throughout the year where we adorn the altar with flowers to celebrate a special liturgical Mass. We are inviting parishioners to cover the cost of the flowers by dedicating them in a loved one's memory. The memorial will be listed in the bulletin for each particular occasion as it occurs. The cost of the flower arrangement is \$110. If you would like to dedicate any flower arrangement for any of the dates listed below, please call the parish office. This is much like booking a mass intention, where one memorial will be intended for the flowers and does not include Easter and Christmas flowers where all parishioners are invited to dedicate Easter lilies and Christmas poinsettias in memory or in honor of loved ones. The dates still available for 2024 are listed below.

March 28-Holy Thursday	March 30-Easter Vigil	May 9-Ascension
May 12-Mother's Day	May 19-Pentecost	May 26-Trinity Sunday
June 2-Corpus Christi	August 15-The Assumption	September 28-The Archangels
November 1-All Saints/All Souls	November 24-Christ the King	
December 8- The Immaculate Conception		

2024 Mass Intentions

The **2024 Mass Intention** book is open for requesting Masses for loved ones. It is a common practice among the faithful to arrange Masses to be said for deceased loved ones on the anniversary of their passing or on other significant anniversary dates. We encourage you to contact the parish office early so that any specific dates that you want may be reserved. The customary offering is \$10 for each request.

SRP Parish Directory

We are in the process of updating the parish records and directory to get current information for our parishioners and visitors. Some of the existing information we have contains outdated phone numbers, addresses, etc. Please take the time to get us any updated information you may have. Thank you!



Saint Benedict Academy

Catholic Schools
Saint Benedict Academy (Pre-K-6)
85 Third Street, Manchester, NH
Principal: Tanya Paiva
Contact: (603) 669-3932
Website: www.stbenedictacademy.org
December 25-January 5th Christmas Break
January 2-5-SBA Christmas Vacation Camp
January 15-No School -Martin Luther King, Jr Holiday



Winter Weather Policy

Just a reminder that if the Manchester Public Schools are closed due to weather conditions, all parish facilities are closed. The parish office is closed and there is no noontime Mass. Also, you may check WMUR for closing updates.



Parish Prayer List

All sick and/or medically fragile in our parish family and throughout our communities, our health care personnel, for first responders and essential workers: Sean O'Donnell, Paul Bedard, Jocelyn Ducharme, Richard Fudala, Jenna Harrington, Al Heidenreich, Cindy Kenny, Amy Lesniak, Fr. Tom McGann, Claude Morin, Jake Richards, Kitty B. Rene, Lillie Duquette, and Jacob Rivera. **If you would like a name placed on the prayer list or removed from the prayer list, please call the office at (603) 623-2604 or e-mail SRP@st-raphael-parish.org. Call each month to renew the listing.**

103 Walker Street, Manchester, NH 03102 | www.st-raphael-parish.org | PHONE: (603) 623-2604

January 7, 2024 | *The Epiphany of the Lord*

Mass for the Cause of Life

A special Mass for the **Cause of Life** will be celebrated at **St. Joseph Cathedral at 12:10 pm on Friday, January 19, 2024** – the same day that the National March for Life will take place in Washington, D.C. In the post-Roe v. Wade era, there continue to be challenges on the state and local levels. And the most important work of all is ongoing – converting hearts and minds to build a culture of life in the United States. Please consider joining us at St. Joseph Cathedral for this important event that the U.S. bishops called our “preeminent priority.”

Sanctuary Candle

Have you noticed that the **Sanctuary Candle** burns each week for deceased loved ones or for parishioners intentions? If you would like the candle to burn for someone special, please contact the parish office. There is an offering of \$10 for each request.



To All Our Volunteers

“Always be a gift to others.” - Pope Francis

To all our parish volunteers—All of you care so deeply and step up so often to keep things running so smoothly at our parish. Your dedication is essential to the work we do and we cannot do it without you!

With deepest appreciation— Fr. Anselm, OSB

“Everybody can be great because everyone can serve....You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.”

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The 9:30 am Sunday Mass Choir is seeking new members. Please consider joining our Choir. We rehearse Thursday evenings from 7:30-8:30pm in the choir loft.

Attention Lectors!

Please pick up the 2024 Workbook for Lectors in second sacristy.

The Magi's Faith

Today's feast day is called the **Epiphany of the Lord**. The Greek word epiphany is a synonym for apocalypse; both refer to a revelation. The dictionary tells us that a revelation is an enlightening or astonishing disclosure. In the contrast between the Magi and Herod's theologians, today's Gospel depicts the difference between people who can receive a revelation and those who protect themselves from it. Theologian Silvano Fausti describes those open to revelation with the paradoxical statement: "The person who seeks is the person who knows." What did the Magi know? They knew that their stores of wisdom, knowledge and certainties were smaller than the truth. They knew that growth requires displacement, the uncomfortable process of venturing into an unknown that stretches and questions assumptions, all for the sake of a greater depth of being.

Johnny Lee's song (Lookin' for Love) describes the wrong places he'd sought love. Most of us could write our own list of dead-end attempts at finding our heart's desire. Matthew's Magi tell us what Luke's Emmaus travelers learned: Life is a journey — always moving forward. Each step can open us to more. The Magi also warn us about what is called cheap grace: the easy answers and religious facts that provide security rather than call us into growth.

The Magi had more faith in God than in their own ideas and understanding. They were willing to sing "I spent a lifetime looking for you" for the rest of their lives. We might look to them as the patron saints of evolution, reminders that no matter how much we accomplish, learn or love, God keeps offering more to those who are willing to seek and find it. The feast of the Epiphany invites us to **holy disquiet**, a way of living that has nothing to do with grumbling or complaint. We can make holy disquiet a life-long posture by nurturing it with wonder, gratitude and hope — all of which require humility. Holy disquiet leads us to appreciate the good of every moment not as something to be grasped, but as a promise of more.

Surely, we will sometimes end up in the wrong places, but, like the Magi who could leave Herod to his own devices, it's always possible to reorient ourselves. Our journey will not end on this Earth, but we cannot do better than spend our lifetime seeking. (NCR)



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