



SAINT RAPHAEL PARISH

103 WALKER ST MANCHESTER NH 03102 | 603.623.2604 | WWW.ST-RAPHAEL-PARISH.ORG

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2024

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Benedictine Monks of Saint Anselm Abbey

*"Every valley shall be filled
and every mountain and hill shall be made low.
The winding roads shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."*

- Lk 3:5-6

December 8, 2024 | Second Sunday of Advent

Saint Raphael Parish Office Hours

Parish Office Hours

Monday—Thursday
9:00am to Noon

And in the afternoons 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



Catholic Appeal Double Your Donation

Double your donation to the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal!

Yes, you read that correctly: right now, you can double your donation dollars toward our parish goal for the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal! **We are thrilled to announce that an anonymous parishioner has offered to match donations between now and December 31st.** You can make your gift online at www.catholicnh.org/nhca. Be sure to indicated the church as Saint Raphael. **We need the support of all our parish families in order to reach our parish goal. Thank you!**



Altar Flowers

The Altar Flowers for the **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception** of the Blessed Virgin Mary are a gift of Florine Breault in loving memory of Bob Breault on the 8th anniversary of his passing to new life.



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.



Food Pantry

The food pantry is always looking for **volunteers to help out on Monday nights from 5:00 to 6:30pm.** Here is the link to sign up to be a food pantry volunteer: <https://volunteersignup.org/TH4PL>. Orders also need to be picked up from the **Food Bank** on Mondays. Feel free to sign up for as often as you would like!



Parish Offertory

November 16-17, 2024

Regular Offertory	\$	3,007.00
Stewardship	\$	81.00
On Line Giving Total	\$	1,207.00
Food Pantry	\$	5,335.00

November 23-24, 2024

Regular Offertory	\$	3,119.00
Stewardship	\$	37.00
Holy Days	\$	26.00
On Line Giving Total	\$	997.00
Food Pantry	\$	10.00



Our food pantry served more than **50 families** on Monday, November 25th and also gave out Thanksgiving baskets for all who requested them.

December 8, 2024 | Second Sunday of Advent

Monday Gn 3:9-15, 20 Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday Is 40:1-11 Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13 Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday Is 40:25-31 Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10 Mt 11:28-30

Thursday Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab Jud 13:18bcde, 19 Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Friday Is 48:17-19 Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 Mt 11:16-19

Saturday Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19 Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday Zep 3:14-18a Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 Phil 4:4-7 Lk 3:10-18



Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday, December 7~ Second Sunday of Advent Vigil

4:00pm: +Bob Breault by Florine Breault

Sunday, December 8~ Second Sunday of Advent

7:30am: +Patricia Clement by Eileen Smith

9:30am: +Jack Toomey (21st Anniversary) by Kathy Toomey

5:00pm: +Arlene Ackerson by the Wencis Family

Monday, December 9~ *The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)*

12:00pm: +Joyceann Fitzgerald-Guill by Chris & Kevin Powers

6:30pm: Our Parish Family

Tuesday, December 10~ Advent Weekday

12:00pm: +Duhaine Family Deceased by the family

Wednesday, December 11~ Advent Weekday

12:00pm: +Padraig McGrath by Talley & PJ Guill

Thursday, December 12~ Our Lady of Guadalupe

12:00pm: +Souls in Purgatory by the Pereira family

Friday, December 13~ St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

12:00pm +Deceased Benedictines

Saturday, December 14~ Third Sunday of Advent Vigil

4:00pm: +Joanne Van Horn by Paul & Mary Day

Sunday, December 15~ Third Sunday of Advent

7:30am: Our Parish Family

9:30am: +Laurent Cote by Jeannine Cote

5:00pm: +Evelyn E. Ferris by Evelyn M. Ferris

Parish Event Calendar

Saturday, December 7

Sunday, December 8

Monday, December 9

5:30pm Food Pantry (Parish Hall)

Tuesday, December 10

No Parish Nurse Today

Wednesday, December 11

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

6:30pm Parish Council (Chapel)

6:30pm Knitting Group (Rectory)

Thursday, December 12

6:00pm Advent Concert (Church)

7:30pm Choir Practice (Church)

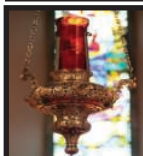
Friday, December 13

Saturday, December 14

9:00am Benedictine Oblates (Rectory)

Considering a Vocation?

"My kingdom does not belong to this world." Help lead others to Christ and to know his merciful love. Prayerfully consider he may be calling you to serve in this world as a priest or religious brother or sister. 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
+Helen Devine by
Kathy Toomey

December 8, 2024 | Second Sunday of Advent

Saint Benedict Academy

Catholic Schools

Saint Benedict Academy (Pre-K-6)

85 Third Street, Manchester, NH

Principal: Tanya Paiva

Contact: (603) 669-3932

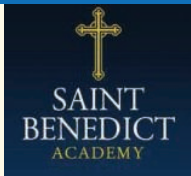
Website: www.stbenedictacademy.org

December 9 Professional Development Day—No School

December 12—Advent Concert (Church) at 6:30pm

December 20—Half Day 11:30 Dismissal

December 23—January 3 Christmas Break



Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is one of the most important Marian feasts of the liturgical calendar. This year, December 8 falls on the Second Sunday of Advent, which takes liturgical precedence over the feast of the Immaculate Conception. Due to the importance of this Marian feast, its observance has been moved to Monday, December 9, 2024. In response to an inquiry from the U.S. bishops, the Holy See has also confirmed that the obligation to attend Mass for the Immaculate Conception is transferred to December 9. This marks a new interpretation of Church law, meaning that the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on December 9 will now always be a holy day of obligation.



Christmas Flowers in Memory of Loved Ones

Donations for Christmas flowers will be accepted in the names of deceased loved ones and friends. A \$25 donation per intention is recommended. Write names to be included along with the amount of the donations and send your offering to the parish office or drop it in the offertory collection. Envelopes are on the table at the main entrance of the church. Those who receive offertory envelopes will find floral donation envelopes in your recent package. Special thanks to those who donate flowers, as we ask you to maintain your generous Christmas giving. Thank you!



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.



Christmas Eve Mass

Calling all Angels, Wise Men, and Shepherds to participate in our Christmas Eve Mass pageant. Costumes will be provided. Please contact Tauna Sisco for more information and to register at TSisco@anselm.edu.



SRP Book Club

Next St. Raphael Book Group: Saturday, December 21, at 10:30 in the Parish Hall. We'll be reading *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson, which won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 2005. Set in a small town in Iowa in the 1950s, the novel takes the form of a letter written by a father to his young son. The father is ill and along in years, and hopes that his letter will provide his son with insight and memories as he grows to adulthood.



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.

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, 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



ADVENT CALENDAR 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>15</p> <p>The Third Sunday of Advent</p> <p>Today is the Third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday. At this halfway point in the season of Advent, light two violet candles and the rose candle on your Advent wreath and Rejoice! For the Lord is near!</p>	<p>16</p> <p>According to custom, the Christmas tree is set up before Christmas and remains in place until the Solemnity of Epiphany. Share this blissing with your family and friends.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Today marks the beginning of the "O Antiphons." This tradition, which comes from Evening Prayer, has been around since at least the eighth century.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior; he will rejoice over you with gladness, and renew you in his love.</p> <p>Zephaniah 3:17</p>	<p>19</p> <p>"All of us, however, need to recover the joy of living, since men and women, created in the image and likeness of God (cf. Gen 1:26), cannot rest content with getting along one day at a time, settling for the here and now and seeking fulfillment in material realities alone."</p> <p>Pope Francis, <i>Jubilee Bull of Indiction</i>, no. 9</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Use this blessing to bless the nativity scene in your home:</p> <p>Blessing of a Christmas Manger or Nativity Scene USCCB</p>	<p>21</p> <p>As winter begins in the Northern hemisphere, consider how you can share the light and warmth of Christ with others, especially those on the margins, in the new year.</p>
<p>22</p> <p>The Fourth Sunday of Advent</p> <p>On this Fourth Sunday of Advent, light all three violet candles and the rose candle on your Advent wreath and pray that the light of Christ will enter your heart so that you may share the warmth of God's love with those you meet.</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Spend a family evening eating cookies and drinking hot chocolate while you read the Christmas cards you have received. Before bed, pray an Our Father and a Hail Mary for all your beloved family and friends.</p>	<p>24</p> <p>"Through our witness, may hope spread to all those who anxiously seek it. May the way we live our lives say to them in so many words: 'Hope in the Lord! Hold firm, take heart and hope in the Lord!' (Ps 27:14). May the power of hope fill our days, as we await with confidence the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and glory, now and forever."</p> <p>Pope Francis, <i>Jubilee Bull of Indiction</i>, no. 25</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Before opening presents, gather at your Nativity Scene and read the Christmas story (Luke 2:1-20) from your family Bible.</p>	<p>26</p> <p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>28</p>



Copyright © 2024, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC. All rights reserved. Quote from Pope Francis, copyright © 2022, Libreria Editrice Vaticana, Vatican City State. All rights reserved. Quote from the *Lecternary for Mass for the Day in the Dioceses of the United States of America*, second typical edition © 2011, 1988, 1997, 1998, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

BRUCE R. COURTNEY, D.M.D.

Family & Cosmetic Dentistry
 920 Second Street
 Manchester, NH 03102
603-668-7494

AUBIN
HARDWARE
 762 Mast Road
 Manchester, NH 03102
668-5533
 Open: Mon.-Fri. 7am-7pm
 Sat. 8am-5pm; Sun. 9am-3pm


STEBBINS
 COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES LLC
 Servicing the Commercial Industrial and Investment Real Estate Market of Southern New Hampshire since 1985
 730 Pine Street • Manchester, NH
603-669-6323
www.stebbinscommercialproperties.com


Jacques
 FLOWER SHOP
 and Garden Center
 712 Mast Rd., Manchester, NH
 603-625-5155
 800-622-5155
www.jacquesflowers.com

Walk-Ins Or Appointments
Debbie's barber shop
 352 S. Main St., Manchester
 (Across from Blake's)
623-7205
 Debbie Croteau Magnon, Proprietor

A-1
Siding, Roofing & Insul. LLC
 113 Rockland Ave.
 Manchester, NH 03102
603-627-7339
A1SidingAndRoofing.com


FOREIGN & DOMESTIC AUTO REPAIR

Rons TOY SHOP
 Manchester, NH
Custom Build TRAILERS PARTS & ACCESSORIES
 235 Elm St., Manchester, NH
 603-669-9682 • 603-669-0070
www.RonsToyShop.com


Rosaries
 and Keepsakes
 made from your special flowers
Family owned & operated for over 40 years!
walk-ins • mail orders • call
Weddings • Funerals • Communion • Gift
 1215 Main Street | Unit 114 | Tewksbury MA
www.rosariesfromflowers.com
978-851-9103

Welcome to Our Church!


DUVAL'S

800.439.8868
DUVALSTOWING.COM


CONNOR-HEALY
 FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATION CENTER
 537 UNION STREET
 MANCHESTER, NH 03104
 (603) 622-8223
WWW.CONNORHEALY.COM


 Directors
Ryann C. Healy
Daniel J. Healy
Walter "Skip" Hebert

JOHN & SONS TIRE SERVICE
 Passenger Car & L.T. Truck Tires
 Domestic & Foreign Car Sizes
 Uniroyal • Goodyear • Michelin
 Cordovan • Firestone & More!
Alignment, Wheel Balancing, Inspections, Brakes, Shocks, Oil, Lube & Filter
 627-1585
 541 Amory St., Manchester

IN REMEMBRANCE OF SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON

S A M I

Durning, Bykowski & Young
Funeral Home, Inc.
Traditional Preplanning & Cremation Services
 285 Manchester Street
 (Corner of Beech St.)
 Manchester, NH 03103-5210
603-624-4845
www.durningbykowskianyoung.com

catholicmatch®
 New Hampshire


STOP ASK MATCH INFORM

Mallory's Army Foundation
United Together In The Fight Against Bullying... Don't Just Teach Kindness... BE KINDNESS!

www.MallorysArmy.com
 (973) 440-8657 • info@mallorysarmy.org
It's easy to join our mailing list! Just send your email address by text message: Text MALLORYSARMY to 22828 to get started.
 Message and data rates may apply.



CatholicMatch.com/dateNH

Ask **#WHATSMYNAME**
 BEFORE YOU GET IN A RIDE SHARE


 American Red Cross
 Make a Difference in Your Community
VOLUNTEER
 with the American Red Cross
 Join today at redcross.org/Volunteer

Check out the latest offerings by your bulletin sponsors by downloading our app

INCREASE YOUR VISIBILITY IN THE COMMUNITY
 Place Your Ad Here to Support Our Parish!
CONTACT ME Jeannie
203-530-8048


FREE DOWNLOAD!


 Google Play | Download on the App Store