



Vine & Branches Area Faith Community

www.vineandbranchesafc.org

February 11, 2024
6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*I am the vine, you are
the branches.
Whoever remains in
me and I in him will
bear much fruit,
because without me
you can do nothing.
John 15:5*

Liturgies This Week

Mon Feb 12	No Mass <i>James 1:1-11; Mark 8:11-13</i>
Tues Feb 13	(Spfld) 8:30am Mass +Layton Peters <i>James 1:12-18; Mark 8:14-21</i>
Wed Feb 14	(Spfld) 8:30am Mass +Mike Pieschel (Spfld) 6:30pm Mass +Doris Weber (Lamb) 6:30pm Mass +Barbara Axford <i>Joel 2:12-18; 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18</i>
Thur. Feb 15	(Sanb) 8:00am Mass +Jeremy Radtke <i>Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Luke 9:22-25</i>
Fri. Feb 16	(Spfld) 8:30am Mass +Linus Feirer <i>Isaiah 58:1-9a; Matthew 9:14-15</i>
Sat. Feb 17	(Spfld) 5:30pm Mass +Monica Platz <i>Isaiah 58:9b-14; Luke 5:27-32</i>
Sun. Feb 18	(Spfld) 8:30am Mass –Judy Moritz (Lamb) 10:30am Mass –For the People <i>Genesis 9:8-15; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:12-15</i>

Church of St. Raphael & Area Office

20 W Van Dusen Street ~ 507-723-4137
Springfield MN 56087

Email: staphael@newulmtel.net

Prayer Chain

Karen Brandl 507-920-6709

Church of St. Joseph

400 W 2nd Ave, PO Box 458
Lamberton MN 56152

& St. Thomas Oratory, Sanborn MN
507-752-7269

Email stjoseph@centurylink.net

Prayer Chain— Sue Imker 507-829-1846

St. Joseph Secretary—Sue Imker

Pastor

Fr. Jeremy Kucera Phone: 507-828-5247
fatherjeremykucera@gmail.com

Deacon

Dcn. Barry Reindl Phone: 723-5952
barkmr7@gmail.com

Parish Secretary

Raquel Kieper 723-4137
staphael@newulmtel.net

Parish Bookkeeper

Connie Vogel 723-4138
cvogel@newulmtel.net

Faith Formation/Youth Ministry

Karen Reindl
mrsreindl@staphaelpk-6.com

School Principal

Beth Steffl 723-4136
mrssteffl@staphaelpk-6.com

School Secretary

Trisha Ludewig 723-4135
straysschooloffice@newulmtel.net

Sacrament of Reconciliation

✠Saturday 4:30—5:15pm at St. Raphael

✠Wednesday 7:15-7:45am at St. Joseph

◆Prayer Chain

507-920-6709, 507-441-1049, 507-227-6606

◆Good Neighbor Thrift Store 723-5778

20 E. Central, Springfield, MN

◆Office of Catholic Charities 866-670-5163

Baptism: Pre-baptism classes required - Contact AFC Office

Suggested Stipend for Sacrament of Baptism—\$25.00

Marriage: All Catholics are to contact the parish and pastor at least 6 months before their wedding.

►Mass Stipend \$10.00

►Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday at 1:00pm

The Mission of the Vine & Branches Area Faith Community empowered by the Holy Spirit is to bear fruit that will last as Jesus commanded: by celebrating and proclaiming our Catholic faith as disciples of Jesus using our God-given gifts; by reaching out to and welcoming all people; and by centering our lives on the Eucharist, sacraments, scripture, service and the teaching of the Church.

Hello everyone,

I pray that all are doing well and enjoying this warm and very unusual weather.

Thank you to everyone who had a hand in helping with and preparing for Confirmation last weekend with Bishop Zielinski and the kids of our AFC. Bishop enjoyed the morning with us and emailed me for a group photo of him with the kids.

I'd also like to ask everyone for their prayers as the planning stages for the Rome pilgrimage continue. We had a full basement of people interested which kind of caught me off guard. I encouraged the group, and I would like to encourage all of you as well to pray. Pray for the people discerning, pray for many graces to be showered upon those seeking an encounter with the Lord, or a deeper encounter with him and his Church. One of the things that happens during a jubilee year, which is when we would be going, is that we also look to seek forgiveness for the wrongs that we have done in our lives. I still remember how St. John Paul II did this during the Jubilee of 2000. It was so powerfully moving to see the humility and deep desire for forgiveness and healing where people were wounded at that hands of others in the Church.

As most of you are probably aware Lent is right around the corner. Today I received a phone call from my niece during her lunchbreak at school asking me about the specific Catholic Church regulations for fasting and abstinence during Lent. I thought if she is asking, maybe some of you are wondering as well. Here you go:

- Everyone 14 years of age or older is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday.
- Everyone 18 or older, and under 59 years of age, is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
- On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, only one full meatless meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted. When health or ability to work is seriously affected, the law does not oblige.
- Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed minimal penitential practices.

At the same time, I always encourage people to listen to their doctors and seriously consider what they say, especially when dealing with something like diabetes or any other type of disease or illness that I can't cover in a one-page article. Fasting is not supposed to put someone's life in danger.

God's blessings,

Fr. Jeremy



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~Church of St. Joseph~

Meetings and Activities

Feb 11	10:30am	Mass
Feb 14	6:30pm	Mass—Ash Wednesday
	6:30-7:30pm	Faith Formation Classes
Feb 15	8:00am	Mass—St. Thomas
Feb 18	10:30am	Mass

This week we remember *these people in our prayers.*
Russ & Doreen Kronback and Eric Kronback

Our Shepherd of the field:

Father Jeffrey Horejsi



~Please also pray for those in need ~

Bruce Olson Mary Arnoldi Pat Dauer
 Brett Baumann Linda Riley Bob Peterson
 Marcie Anderson

St. Joseph Contribution Budget July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

	Annual Budget	Budget to Date	Received to Date
Adults	62,000.00	\$38,153.92	\$38,727.76
Student	\$250.00	\$153.92	\$201.00
Loose Plate	\$2,500.00	\$1,538.56	\$2,109.65

Last Week's Parish Revenue-St. Joseph

Adult Envelope	\$600.00
Student Envelope	\$6.00
Loose Plate	\$151.00
Candles	\$1.00
Total	\$758.00

February 14 Ministries

Lector Jeff Strock
EMC Emily Scheffler
Servers Maia Scheffler & Oliver Hubert
Sacristan Teresa Wenisch
Ushers Gordy Wille & Larry Weber
Gift Bearers Jared Wenisch Family
Money Counters Diane Arnsdorf & Cathy Graff

February 18 Ministries

Lector Jane Zimmermann
EMC Teresa Wenisch
Servers Koyer Alms & Alaina Wenisch
Sacristan Diane Arnsdorf
Ushers Jason Axford & Vern Hillesheim
Gift Bearers Katie Alms Family
Money Counters Katy Wille & Doreen Kronback

Weekly Faith Formation Schedule

Wednesday, February 14

6:30-7:30pm Faith Formation Classes

St. Joseph's is in need of:

- 2 more Sacristans. The set up for Mass before and put away after.
- 1 more person to lead the Rosary before Mass. You wouldn't be on the schedule—just someone to call when needed.

Prayers are that someone will step up—it takes the pressure off those that are already scheduled.



Please pray for Scarlett Frasher as she prepares for her First Reconciliation and Holy Communion.

Lamberton United Methodist Church
 612 South Fir - Lamberton

**CHICKEN CHOW MEIN
 & CHILI LUNCHEON**
 Sunday, Feb. 18 ~ 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.



Menu:

Choice of Chili or
 Chicken Chow Mein
 Dinner Roll, Pie,
 Coffee and Water

Prices:

Adults: \$9 ~ 10 & under \$6
 Immediate Family: \$28
 Extra serving: \$3
 Extra piece of pie: \$2



Call 507-430-0269 or 507-530-6639

for take-out and delivery, (delivery in Lamberton only)
 For take-out and delivery, exact change or personal check is appreciated

~Church of St. Raphael~

Contribution Budget July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024			
	Annual Budget	Budget to Date	Received to Date
Adults	\$335,000.00	\$206,153.92	\$218,884.14
Gr. 7-12	\$1,100.00	\$677.12	\$10.00
Pre K-6	\$1,100.00	\$677.12	\$0.00

The 400 Club Winners this Week

- #214 Muriel Walter \$65.00
- #32 Margaret Gostonczik \$65.00

~ Serving next Funeral will be Group C ~

~Good Neighbor Thrift ~
 Monday 9:00am-3:00pm
 Tuesday-Friday 9:30am-4:00pm
WINTER HOURS
February 12-16
Any clothing that is Red or Pink is 50% off
All Jewelry is 50% off
 Now accepting Winter Clothing Donations

Last week's Parish Revenue	
Adult Envelopes	\$6,995.00
Youth Envelope	\$10.00
Loose Plate	\$671.00
DUF	\$5.00
CCW Donation	\$25.00
Fuel & Heat	\$110.00
Red Heart Envelope	\$15.00
Teacher Support	\$100.00
Capital Improvement	\$10.00
Capital Improvement—Playground	\$5,100.00
Good Neighbor Thrift Store	\$396.88
Total Income	\$13,437.88


LSS Meals (Meals on Wheels) is looking for a Site Coordinator in Springfield. This position operates out of St. John Lutheran Church, Monday-Friday 9:30-11:30am. No evenings/weekends/major holidays and paid time off. Call Anna at 507-593-5862 for more information or apply online at www.lssmn.org/careers

The 2023 Contribution Statements are now available for pick up in the gathering space. Please be sure to stop in and grab yours.

Upcoming VIRTUS Training Sessions

✠A new VIRTUS Training Session has been added for **Tuesday, February 13, 2024, from 6:00-9:00pm at Cathedral High School Library, New Ulm.**

You can register online through the diocesan website www.dnu.org/safeenvironment by clicking on the large red button in the left margin of the main Safe Environment web page.



Spring is in the Air

Vendor/Craft Fair

Over 20 Vendors & Crafters


Saturday March 2nd, 2024
Springfield Area Community Center
9 AM - 2 PM

Watch for more details!


Proceeds from this event benefit St. Raphael Catholic School PTT




Coffee Connection has begun and we are looking for people willing to help serve coffee and treats on Sundays after mass. You can find the sign up sheets in the Gathering Space on the counter by the sink. Contact Vicki Roiger 507-822-1504 if you have questions.



The Parish Office will be CLOSED
 Monday, February 12, 2024—Monday, February 19, 2024.



We would like to welcome LouAnn Gunderson, to St. Raphael Parish Community. We are happy to welcome you to our parish family.



Mark your calendars! Saturday, June 22, 2024 at 4:00pm, Bishop Chad Zielenski will be here to celebrate Mass and the 150th anniversary of St. Raphael's parish.

~Church of St. Raphael~

Meetings & Activities

Feb 11	8:30am	Mass
Feb 13	8:30am	Mass
	4:00-5:30pm	Atrium
Feb 14	8:30am	School Mass –Ash Wednesday
	5:00-6:00pm	Children’s Choir Practice
	6:00-after Mass	Faith Formation Classes grades 1-6
	6:30pm	Praise & Worship Choir sings at Mass
	6:30pm	Mass—Ash Wednesday
	After Mass-8:15pm	Faith Formation Classes grades 7-10
Feb 16	6:30-7:30am	That Man is You
	8:30am	Mass
Feb 17	5:30pm	Mass
		Rolls sold after Mass
Feb 18	8:30am	Mass

Please remember in your prayers:


✠ Our Shepherd of the Field:
Father Steven Verhelst

Please pray for our parishioners this week~

Sun: Keith & Jill Riederer Family
 Mon: Mary Ann Riederer
 Tues: Pauline Roberts
 Wed: Justin & Melissa Robertson Family
 Thur: Curt & Heather Rogotzke Family
 Fri: Floyd & Sue Rogotzke
 Sat: Jim & Sara Rogotzke Family

Weekly Candle Intentions (\$5.00 offering)
 Special Intentions Special Intention

✠Small Votive Candles are now \$1.00 each
 ✠Large Intention Candles are now \$5.00 each




Check out Channel 8–Cablecast

*** St. Raphael Sunday Mass**
 Every Tuesday at 5:00 pm & Friday at 5:00 pm

***Remembering Jesus: A Catholic Approach to Alzheimer’s Disease—Episode 1**
 Every Tuesday at 11:00am & Thursday at 7:00pm

To view the Mass videos online, visit our YouTube channel and subscribe.



YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com> and search for St. Raphael Catholic Church. You will see a picture of our church.

February 14, 2024	
Ash Wednesday	
	6:30pm
Servers	Brynn Wilhelmi
	Blake Wilhelmi
Lector	Katie Wilhelmi
EMHC	Dcn. Barry Reindl
Accompanist	Praise & Worship Choir
Song Leader	Praise & Worship Choir
Rosary	VOLUNTEER
Head Usher	Steve Woidylla
	Donna Woidylla
	VOLUNTEER
	VOLUNTEER
Videographer	Elliott Maleska

February 17 & 18, 2024		
	5:30pm	8:30am
Servers	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
Lector	Max Meine	John Ryan
EMHC	Max Meine	Dcn. Barry Reindl
Accompanist	TBA	TBA
Song Leader	TBA	TBA
Rosary	VOLUNTEER	Jackie Roiger
Head Usher	Terry Ochs	Luke Roiger
	Cathy Ochs	Brooklyn Sturm
	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
Videographer	Brayden Sturm	

~St. Raphael School~

It is the mission of St. Raphael Catholic School to bring students to a deeper relationship with Jesus while providing excellent education.

Greetings!

Catholic United Financial Raffle: This is the fourth week of our Catholic United Raffle fundraiser. Ticket sales will go through February 18th. Our goal for this fundraiser is \$14,000. The awesome thing about this fundraiser is that CUF does all the work for us! They print the tickets, they get the prizes. All we have to do is sell the tickets! Every single penny of this fundraiser stays with St. Raphael Catholic School to support the school directly, going into the general budget of the school. **Last week we had \$2,400 of CUF ticket sales! Our total so far from the first three weeks of sales for the fundraiser is \$5,880. This is 42% of our goal!** I know this week we sold more tickets! I will be letting everyone know what our sales are each week here in the bulletin!! There are some fantastic prizes for this year's raffle! This year ticket prices have gone up to \$10 each. If you would like to purchase a ticket, please stop into the school office or contact a St. Raphael Catholic School family. For more details on the raffle and the prizes they are giving away, visit the CUF Raffle web page. <https://bit.ly/3TRfEAwt>

I Love to Read Month: This week we kicked off "I Love to Read" month. This is a time during the school year where we take some extra time to focus on the importance of reading. During the next month, we will have a weekly "mystery reader," this is a guest that reads a book to the students. Our committee has also planned a special activity to go along with the book. During the month, all students have a daily personal reading goal, and a collective school-wide goal for minutes read during the month. If the students reach the school-wide goal, there is a fun activity attached with it that is a surprise!

Godly Virtues: Our Godly virtue that we are emphasizing this month at school is honesty-being trustworthy and true. We read this over our morning announcements every day and use it in the classrooms as we teach our students to follow Jesus. It has been fun to listen to students and staff and see how they bring the Godly virtues that we have learned so far into their day-to-day lives.

Kindergarten Roundup: We are hosting our annual Kindergarten Roundup event on Thursday February 29th, 2024 from 6:30-7:30. Parents and their children who will be at least 5 years old by September 1, 2024 are invited to attend. Students will do fun activities with our kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Maggie Vogel in the kindergarten classroom. Parents are invited to spend some time with Mrs. Steffl and some of our St. Raphael School parents to learn about the school, take a school tour and be able to ask questions. We invite anyone who wants to come and take a look at the school!

Upcoming Dates:

Wednesday February 14: School Mass @ 8:30 planned by grade 5 (Ash Wednesday Mass)

Thursday February 15: Optional spring conferences after school for K-6

Friday February 16: Early out at 12:30PM

Monday February 19: No School, President's Day

Friday February 23: School Mass @ 8:30 planned by grade 1

Thursday February 29: Stations of the Cross @ 12:15 for staff and students gr. 3-6

Friday March 1: Reconciliation for school students during the school day

Tuesday March 12: Stations of the Cross @ 2:15 for staff and students gr. 3-6

Monday March 25: Stations of the Cross @ 8:30 for staff and students gr. 3-6

Blessings,

Mrs. Beth Steffl

School Office Hours

Monday-Friday 7:30am—3:30pm

Hours may vary if school is closed. Please watch bulletin for notices.



St Raphael School will be selling rolls after Mass on Saturday, February 17, 2024.

~Youth & Adult Faith Formation ~

Lent is beginning this week. During lent we usually “give up” something. As a child I usually gave up candy – mind you I did NOT get candy daily so not much of a sacrifice was it. The true goal is that when we give up something that draws us away from God, we add something that will help us grow closer to God. For instance, to give up gossip and add giving a daily, true complement.

~Mrs. Karen Reindl

the generosity habit

The Generosity Habit by Matthew Kelly: Generosity is the virtue of giving plentifully. It is first and foremost a disposition of the heart. Any act of generosity is an external manifestation of the invisible internal reality. Generosity is a way of life. This week, express your appreciation to others. A simple “Thank you”, phone call or note to someone you appreciate will make their day!

Weekly Faith Formation Schedule

Wednesday, February 14

6:00-end of Mass Faith Formation Classes grades 1-6
Following Mass -8:15pm Faith Formation Classes grades 7-10

Youth Choir Schedule

Wednesday, February 14

5:00-6:00pm Children’s Choir Practice
6:30pm Praise & Worship Choir Sings at Mass

The Diocese of New Ulm presents

»»» Two Nights! »»» Two Big Speakers!

Bob Lesnefsky
DECEMBER 10
YA'LL NEED JESUS

Lisa Cotter
FEBRUARY 18
RELATIONSHIP GOALS

Join us for an energetic evening of entertainment, great food, a captivating speaker, and some time of Eucharistic adoration. Show up hungry for truth (and pizza). Leave feeling satisfied.

LOCATION: ST. ALOYSIUS, OLIVIA
FOR YOUTH IN GRADES 9-12
EVENT IS FROM 4-8PM! DOORS OPEN AT 3:30PM
COST: \$20
TO REGISTER: dnu.org/cor-night

...God speaks.

The Broom Tree Retreat is for those in grades 9-12 looking to “go deeper” in their relationship with Christ. Daily Mass, adoration, talks, games, and silence refresh and renew your soul. Register now to get away from the craziness of life and spend time with the Lord.

- To register, go to dnu.org/btr-registration.
- Cost is \$150.
- Registration due 2/26.
- Retreat begins at noon on Friday and ends at 1:00pm on Sunday.
- Ask your youth ministry coordinator about transportation plans and additional payment and registration details.



~Upcoming Area Events~

Valentine Bingo

(early start because of Super Bowl Sunday)

Sunday, February 11, 2024

Join us for a lunch served from 11 AM - 12 noon

Bingo starts at 12:30 PM

at

CHURCH OF ST. CATHERINE

900 East Flynn Street – Redwood Falls

- \$7.00 for 20 Games -

PRIZES & DOOR PRIZE

Refreshments served after Bingo



Sponsored by Knights of Columbus
Fr. O'Sullivan Council #3863



Sparkle and Dine

7th Annual Women's event held at
the Springfield Community Center
February 12th, 2024

Enjoy Beautiful Theme Tables, a
Catered Meal & Fellowship with other Women!

*You will Be Inspired by our Speaker
Amanda DeYoung from Nisswa, MN*

**We are looking for women that will volunteer to
host and decorate a table for 8.**

Invite your friends.

Use your imagination and creativity to decorate a table...

..God gave us lots of talent!



Proceeds will go towards **the NUMAS Haus**, a women's shelter
dedicated to helping women and their families get back to
independent living. They provide housing, classes and other
support to aide in long-term stability.



Interested in hosting? Contact:

Crystal Dauer 612-910-4931

Alice Johnson 763-645-2873

Vicki Roiger 507-822-1504

Deadline: January 22nd, 2024

Hot Dish Supper

Tuesday, February 13, 2023

5 PM – 6:30 PM

at

Church of St. Catherine

900 East Flynn, Redwood Falls

Adults & Grades 7-12: \$ 10.00
Grades 1-6: \$5.00
K & Under: No charge

Hot dish, salad, dessert, beverage
Also, Gluten free dishes



Proceeds will
help fund the
CCW
Scholarship
Fund

Sponsored by: Council of Catholic Women

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LENTEN FISH AND SHRIMP FRY ST MARY'S CHURCH HALL BIRD ISLAND

Date: Friday February 16, 2024

Time: 4 pm to 7 pm or until gone

Place: St Mary's Church Hall Bird Island

Menu: Deep Fried Fish, Shrimp, Potato
Wedges, Coleslaw, Corn, Buns, Milk,
Coffee, and Dessert

Cost: Adult and Carry Outs \$16

Children 6-12 \$10

MAXIMUM FAMILY COST \$45

See you there and thank you
for your support.

