



Vine & Branches Area Faith Community

www.vineandbranchesafc.org

June 18, 2023
11th 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 June 19	No Mass <i>2 Corinthians 6:1-10; Matthew 5:38-42</i>
Tues (Spfld) June 20	8:30am Mass +Kenneth Sell <i>2 Corinthians 8:1-9; Matthew 5:43-48</i>
Wed (Lamb) June 21	8:00am Mass <i>2 Corinthians 9:6-11; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18</i>
Thur. (Sanb) June 22	8:00am Mass +Robert Frericks <i>2 Corinthians 11:1-11; Matthew 6:7-15</i>
Fri. (Spfld) June 23	8:30am Mass +Joe Rothmeier <i>2 Corinthians 11:18, 21-30; Matthew 6:19-23</i>
Sat. (Spfld) June 24	5:30pm Mass +Willard Juenemann <i>Isaiah 49:1-6; Acts of the Apostles 13:22-26; Luke 1:57-66, 80</i>
Sun. (Spfld) June 25 (Lamb)	8:30am Mass –For the People 10:30am Mass +Kenneth Arnoldi <i>Jeremiah 20:10-13; Romans 5:12-15; John 15:26b, 27a</i>

Church of St. Raphael & Area Office

20 W Van Dusen Street ~ 507-723-4137

Springfield MN 56087

Email: straphael@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

Email stjoseph@centurylink.net

Prayer Chain– Sue Imker 507-829-1846

Pastor

Fr. Garrett Ahlers Office Phone: 723-4141

gahlers@dnu.org

Deacon

Dcn. Barry Reindl Phone: 723-5952

barkmr7@gmail.com

Parish Secretary

Raquel Kieper 723-4137

straphael@newulmtel.net

Parish Bookkeeper

Connie Vogel 723-4138

cvogel@newulmtel.net

Faith Formation/Youth Ministry

Karen Reindl

mrsreindl@straphaelpk-6.com

School Principal

Beth Steffl 723-4136

mrssteffl@straphaelpk-6.com

School Secretary

Bev Krueger 723-4135

straysschooloffice@newulmtel.net

Sacrament of Reconciliation

✠Saturday 4:30—5:15pm at **St. Raphael**

✠Wednesday 7:15-7:45am at **St. Joseph**

✠Wednesday 6:30-7:30 pm at **St Raphael**

◆**Prayer Chain**

507-920-6709, 507-276-2887, 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 fee 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.

A.M.D.G.

Tempus fugit. Time escapes—or, as we more typically say in English, time flies. This pithy phrase gets thrown around quite a bit in our day-to-day parlance: no doubt, as we get older, we only seem to notice all the more how quickly time escapes our grasp. For my part, as the weeks of summer fly by and the end of my tenure at St Raphael comes to its close, I feel time slipping away irretrievably. It's for this reason that I want to share a little about the next phase of my life, as far as I know it. I want to do this over the next two columns: this week, I want to tell you a little about where I am going.

Later this summer, I will be entering the Novitiate of the Society of Jesus—what we sometimes, more colloquially call, the Jesuits. The Jesuits are members of a religious order of the Catholic Church; a religious order is an association or community of men or women who consecrate their lives exclusively to Christ and the service of the Church through the “evangelical counsels,” i.e. the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. **Certainly, all Christians are called to holiness**—sanctity of life is not exclusive to those who become religious brothers, sisters, and priests; rather, it is the goal for all of us, in whatever state of life we belong. **To those who are called to religious life, though, the Lord extends an invitation to renounce other goods of the world and to be singularly consecrated to Him.**

All religious communities have a particular way of life and service of the Church—what we call *charisms*, or **gifts of the Holy Spirit to build up the life of the Church.** The charism of a religious community is what sets it apart from other religious orders, and it usually inspires a certain manner of life that is particular to its members. What is the charism of the Society of Jesus? We can answer this by looking at the vision of the order's founder and considering how it has been put into practice even today. **St. Ignatius of Loyola**, who (along with a handful of faithful companions) founded the Society of Jesus in the sixteenth century, was deeply inspired by the witness of other religious communities—specifically, the Franciscans and Dominicans. **The particular charism that animated his life and those of his companions was spiritual in nature:** St. Ignatius experienced a profound conversion that turned his own interests and preoccupations from the hope of worldly glory and success to the desire for friendship with Jesus and total obedience to the will of God. Over time, St. Ignatius developed a manner of articulating (“putting words to”) his spiritual experiences of the movements of the Holy Spirit in his life, and he developed helpful rules for discerning the will of God. **What really compelled St. Ignatius and his friends along with him was to share this same spirituality with the church: to teach others how to respond to the movements of God in their lives, no matter how subtle, and to respond to God's grace with gratitude, love, and obedience.**

This is why the earliest companions of Ignatius were renowned preachers, spiritual directors, counselors, and retreat masters. Their goal was to be totally at the disposition of the Church—specifically, the Holy Father, the Pope—to go wherever was needed to help bring about renewal and conversion in the life of the Church. This is why the Jesuits, from the beginning, have been some of the most alacritous missionaries in the history of the church since the age of the apostles! Within just years of their founding, the first members of the Society of Jesus were embarking on missions to the Americas, India, the Philippines, Japan, and China to promote the Gospel. Moreover, they were some of the most sought preachers and spiritual directors across Europe.

Fast forward to today: the Jesuits are the largest religious order of the Catholic church, with over 15,000 members across the globe. With that many members, Jesuits come in all shapes, sizes, colors, and nationalities: but the fundamental vision of the order remains that which was given to the Church through St. Ignatius and his companions—**to help others “find God in all things,” to encourage them to respond to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, and to lead them to love for Christ.** In a special way, the Jesuits are dedicated to this charism **through their ongoing missionary work** (the Society of Jesus is still the largest missionary order in the world) **and through education and work with youth.** They also do a lot of other apostolates to serve the Church and the common good of society, which cannot be numbered here.

But why in the world do I want to do this? Stay tuned for next week's column, and I will have more to say on that! I hope to see many of you at the reception this Saturday, 17 June 2023, when I will have an opportunity to greet (and, alas, say my farewells). Let us keep one another in prayer in these days ahead.

~Church of St. Joseph~

Meetings and Activities

June 18	10:30 am	Mass
June 21	8:00am	Mass
June 22	8:00am	Mass—St. Thomas
June 25	10:30am	Mass

St. Joseph Contribution Budget July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023			
	Annual Budget	Budget to Date	Received to Date
Adults	\$60,000.00	\$57,692.50	\$68,302.86
Student	\$300.00	\$288.50	\$207.95
Loose Plate	\$2,500.00	\$2,404.00	\$2,434.92

Last Week's Parish Revenue-St. Joseph	
Adult Envelope	\$930.00
Student Envelope	\$7.00
Loose Plate	\$83.00
Votive Candles	\$7.00
Total	\$1,027.00



Congratulations to Cole & Tallie Jackson, who were married on June 16, 2023. May the Lord bless them as they begin to live out their vocation of Christian marriage!

Upcoming VIRTUS Training Sessions

✠A new VIRTUS Training Session has been added for **Tuesday, June 20, 2023, from 6:00pm-9:00pm at Church of St. Edward, (Knight Hall).**

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.



We have Mass intention availability at both St. Joseph and St. Thomas. If you would like to have a Mass said in honor or in memory of your loved one, please contact Raquel at the Parish Office, at 507-723-4137 to reserve a date.

This week we remember these people in our prayers.
Jordan & Debbie Vollmer and Brian & Angel Weber



Our Shepherd of the field:

Father Matt Wiering

~Please also pray for those in need ~

Bruce Olson	Mary Arnoldi	Pat Dauer
Barb Axford	Linda Riley	Bob Peterson
Brett Baumann	Marcie Anderson	“Pickle” Riley

June 25 Ministries

Lector	Tasha Frasher
EMC	Jeff Strock
Servers	Koyer Alms & Riley Alms
Sacristan	Jeff Strock
Ushers	Larry Weber & Gordy Wille
Gift Bearers	VOLUNTEER
Money Counters	Doreen Kronback & Fred Berg



Please join us on Monday, June 26, 2023, at 7:00pm to celebrate our Annual Farm Mass.

Everyone is invited to join us at Jim & Sue Imker's farm
25224 120th Street, Lamberton, MN



You are invited to a farewell lunch honoring Father Garrett Ahlers following the 10:30 AM mass at St. Joseph's, Lamberton on Sunday, June 25, 2023. Lunch will be served.


A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend renews the promises you made to each other on your wedding day. Experience an enrichment for your marriage that will make your good marriage great! The next available Weekends are Nov 17-19, 2023 in WINDOM, MN and Oct 6-8, 2023 in Buffalo, MN. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: southmnwwme.org or contact Miki at applications@southmnwwme.org or 507-227-8229.

~Church of St. Raphael~

Contribution Budget July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023			
	Annual Budget	Budget to Date	Received to Date
Adults	\$335,000.00	\$322,115.50	\$313,416.48
Gr. 7-12	\$1,100.00	\$1,058.00	\$556.00
Pre K-6	\$1,100.00	\$1,058.00	\$10.00

Last week's Parish Revenue	
Adult Envelopes	\$4,083.50
Loose Plate	\$313.00
Easter	\$50.00
Good Neighbor Thrift Store	\$679.55
Total Income	\$5,126.05

Did you know we have an **Electronic Contribution Form** you fill out and turn into the Parish Office if you would like to schedule regular withdrawals from your account? They can be found at the church entrances or printed off from our website at:
<https://www.vineandbranchesafc.org/stewardship-1/>



Address, Phone, Membership Changes?
 Please remember to update the office on any address, phone, or membership changes for yourself or your children, especially if they have completed their post-high school education. Thank you!


The 400 Club Winner this Week

#91	Sherry Groebner	\$150.00
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~ Serving next Funeral will be Group H~

June 24 & 25, 2023		
	5:30pm	8:30am
Servers	VOLUNTEER	Paul Goedtke
	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
Lector	Bev Fults	Jim Miesen
EMHC	Bev Fults	Dcn Barry Reindl
Accompanist	Sharon Pieschel	Julie Prechel
Song Leader	TBA	Adult Choir
Rosary	Jane Irlbeck	Jim Miesen
Head Usher	VOLUNTEER	Arland Roiger
	VOLUNTEER	Cher Roiger
	VOLUNTEER	Mike Reiner
	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
Videographer	VOLUNTEER	

~**Good Neighbor Thrift** ~
New Store Hours
 Monday 9:00am-12:00pm
 Tuesday-Friday 9:00-5:00pm
 Saturday 9:00am-12:00pm
June 19-24
50% off Lenox Figurine Birds
50% off Wall Hangings
 Now accepting donations



St. Raphael's Adult Choir is in need of new choir robes and stoles. We estimate our current robes are almost twenty-five (25) years old. Each robe and matching stole cost around \$120. The Choir would like to purchase thirty (30) robes. If you would like to donate, make your check payable to **St. Raphael's Church** and **earmark your check for Choir Robes**. Any amount is so appreciated. Thank you for your support of our music ministry!

St. Johns Lutheran Church, Springfield, offers a **free meal** every Thursday evening from 5:30-6:30pm. There is **no cost** to those who attend. Everyone is welcome.

Prayer to St. Raphael
 The Archangel
 St. Raphael, the Archangel,
 Great prince of the heavenly court, you are radiant with your gifts of wisdom and grace.
 You are a guide of those who journey, the consoler of the afflicted, and refuge of sinners.
 Because you are the "Healing of God," we pray you to heal the many weaknesses and ills of our body, mind, and soul, and to assist us in our needs and sufferings in this life.

St. Raphael,
 As once you helped young Tobias, we ask you to guide and lead our youth, to serve Almighty God with their whole strength and to spend their lives gladly to serve the Church as priests, Brothers, and Sisters.
 Amen.

~Church of St. Raphael~

Meetings & Activities

June 18	8:30am	Mass
June 20	8:30am	Mass
June 23	6:30-7:30am	That Man is You
	8:30am	Mass
June 24	5:30pm	Mass
		Rolls sold after Mass
June 25	8:30am	Mass

Please remember in your prayers:

✠ Our Shepherd of the Field:

Father Jeremy Kucera

Please pray for our parishioners this week~

Sun: Sue Flor

Mon: Steve & Sheila Forster

Tues: Michelle Frantz

Wed: Carolyn Fromm

Thur: Kim Fults

Fri: Ron & Bev Fults

Sat: Ruth Fults

Weekly Candle Intentions (\$5.00 offering)

Special Intentions

Special Intentions DGF

✠ Small Votive Candles are now \$1.00 each

✠ Large Intention Candles are now \$5.00 each



Summer Parish Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:00am-12:00pm

Friday CLOSED

Hours may vary, please watch bulletin for notices.

Check out Channel 8—Cablecast

* **St. Raphael Sunday Mass**

Every Tuesday at 5:00 pm & Friday at 6:00 pm

* **Crossing the Goal: Marks of a True Christian—**

Episode 7 Every Tuesday at 11:00am & Thursday at 7:00pm

Please join us on Monday, June 26, 2023, at 7:00pm to celebrate our Annual Farm Mass.



Everyone is invited to join us at Jim & Sue Imker's farm
25224 120th Street, Lamberton, MN



ST. RAPHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH
FALL FESTIVAL
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH
Mass at 10:30 AM
Watch the bulletin for more information!



~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.

Shoe Drive: Help out the school by cleaning out your closets and donating your gently used shoes! We have partnered again with Funds to Orgs! This fundraiser pays us for the shoes by weight and then the shoes go to developing countries to help people start their own micro businesses. It also helps the earth by reducing the number of shoes that end up in a landfill. The school will be collecting new and used shoes for our shoe drive that goes from now until August 7. There is a collection box in the gathering space. Currently, we have collected 375 pairs of shoes and our goal is to collect 2,500 pairs! We are off to a great start!

Scholarship Applications: Scholarship applications for the 2023-2024 school year are due June 30th and will be awarded mid-July. We have been blessed with folks who regularly give to our scholarship fund, therefore we usually award partial scholarships to each family who applies. If you feel moved to help families give their children a Catholic education, please donate to our St. Raphael Catholic School scholarship fund. This is the best time to donate!

Still Searching: We are still searching for a 4th grade teacher and a 5th grade teacher for the 2023-2024 school year. Please continue to encourage the educators your family knows to apply! Qualified applicants may send a cover letter, copy of teaching license, resume, and two letters of recommendation to mrssteffl@straphaelpk-6.com.

Daycare Update: Our waitlist for the daycare is currently open! If your family would like to get on the waitlist, please fill out the Google form that is found on our schools' Facebook page. Our licensing paperwork has been turned in to the county and is being processed. Katie is working on acquiring all the needed materials for the daycare, doing the required training classes, and setting up the classroom. I am working on policies and procedures. We still anticipate a fall 2023 opening for the daycare.

Playground Project: The school will be embarking on a playground project in the next fiscal year. The project will include removing and replacing most of the existing equipment and then using our current space plus a small part of the parking lot to create a new and redesigned space to fit our growing needs. We intend to create a fenced-in area for our youngest learners with smaller age-appropriate equipment. Then, we will add larger, new equipment for our 5-12 year old learners. We have one bid and plan and are in the process of getting another bid and plan. I will also be working on obtaining grants and other sources of funding!

Blessings,


Mrs. Beth Steffl




YOU CAN SUPPORT OUR KIDS

JUST BY DONATING YOUR SHOES

We are collecting shoes again! The drop box is located in the Gathering Space. We are accepting all gently worn, used and new shoes.

PULL TOGETHER.  **Save your pop tabs** and bring them into the Gathering Space and add them to our pop tab collection house. Once the house is full, we will make a delivery to Cash Heemeyer in Marshall so he can deliver them to the Ronald McDonald House.

 **Help our environment & Choices Pregnancy Center, Redwood Falls** ~ In an effort to raise money for Choices Pregnancy Center, Redwood Falls, we are asking that you please donate all empty/used Inkjet Cartridges. Cartridges should be placed in a Ziploc/plastic bag to prevent leakage and dropped off at church.

~Youth & Adult Faith Formation ~

Lifelong Faith Formation

Children + Youth + Adult



When we enter the church we dip our fingertips into the holy water at the baptismal font and make the sign of the Cross which is to bring to mind our baptism.

The Sign of the Cross is a prayer of its own. It is made with our open right hand touching our forehead, saying, “In the name of the Father,” to signify the Father as the first person of the Most Holy Trinity. Then lower the hand to the breast bone as we proclaim, “and the Son”. This is Jesus, the second person of the Most Holy Trinity. Then to the left shoulder as we say, “and of the Holy” then move to the right shoulder, “Spirit” and finish with folding our hands together saying “Amen”. The sign of the

Cross is a declaration of our Catholic faith saying a visible and public ‘yes’ to God.

Have you ever observed Catholics who kiss their thumb after making the Sign of the Cross? They make a cross with their thumb and index finger; the thumb is the vertical bar placed over the index finger, which is the horizontal bar. By kissing their thumb, they are symbolically kissing the Cross of Jesus.

We then go to the pew we want to sit in, genuflect, going down on the right knee and make the sign of the cross before going into the pew to kneel down. Genuflection is a posture the Magi used when they found the “child Jesus”.

As you kneel there say some prayers, Hail Mary, Our Father and simply have a spontaneous conversation with God. I like to ask for help with hearing what God is going to be telling me at Mass that day. Then like any conversation, be quiet so God has a chance to speak to you.

Recall your sins and ask for forgiveness for these venial (small) sins.

Then sit back and open the missal to read the readings and Gospel if you haven’t done so yet. There is a common theme to the readings, usually the first reading and the Gospel. Try to find it as you read them.

All this and Mass hasn’t even started yet!

~Mrs. Karen Reindl



St. Raphael Vacation Bible School called Totus Tuus is a program lead by four young adults sponsored by the Diocese. Youth in grades 1-6

participate in games, Mass, skits and learning starting Monday, July 17- Friday, July 21 from 9am-2pm each day. Teens in grades 7-12 will enjoy games, adoration and small groups for an engaging, meaningful and enjoyable week. They will meet each evening from 7:30-9:30pm July 16-20. Registration forms are located on the Faith Formation table in the gathering space or email to request a form mrsreindl@straphaelk-6.com

Visit www.dnu.org/liturgy-matters to learn about the Mysteries of the Sacred Liturgy, the Mass. These are reflections on the Sacred Liturgy by Bishop Chad W. Zielinski

Meet Your Totus Tuus Team!

TEAM SACRED HEART



DAVID RABAEY

Birthday:
Feb. 27, 2002.
Hometown:
Ghent, MN.
Favorite food:
Pesto Octopus.

Confirmation Saint: St. John Bosco.
School/Major: SJV/Seminarian.
of siblings and rank: 2nd of 8.



HAZEL CHVATAL

Birthday:
May 14, 2003.
Hometown:
Litchfield, MN.
Favorite food:
Ice Cream.

Confirmation Saint: St. Martha.
School/Major: North Dakota State University/Architecture
of siblings and rank: 1st of 3.



MARYANNE LARSEN

Birthday:
April 30, 2003.
Hometown:
Morgan, MN.
Favorite food:
Any soup!

Confirmation Saint: St. Maria Goretti.
School/Major: Lake Area Tech/
Physical Therapist Assistant
of siblings and rank: 5th of 6.



LUKE HASSON

Birthday:
Oct. 29, 2001.
Hometown:
Sicklerville, NJ.
Favorite food:
Hamburgers.

Confirmation Saint: St. Paul.
School/Major: University of Mary/
Philosophy.
of siblings and rank: 2nd of 8.

Totus Tuus

PARISH PROGRAM INFORMATION

- To be kept for your information -

Cost: 1st child \$15, \$10 each additio

Registration and payment is due: July 15, 2023

The grades 1-6 program starts at 9 AM on July 17, 2023 and ends at 2:00 PM on July 21, 2023

The grades 7-12 program starts at 7:30 PM on July 16, 2023 and ends at 9:30 on July 20, 2023

The location Totus Tuus will be held at is: St. Raphael Catholic Church and school. Enter through the gathering space doors.

For questions (or in case of emergency), contact: Karen Reindl, at 507-227-5667

Additional notes: Please plan to bring and attend the potluck on Wednesday, July 19, 2023

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Totus Tuus

YOUTH REGISTRATION FORM

- To be turned in along with payment -

Please return this form (and payment) to:

Parent's Name: _____ Home phone: _____

Email address: _____ Home parish: _____

Emergency contacts

1. _____
name relationship to child phone #

2. _____
name relationship to child phone #

Participating children

Child's name: _____ DOB: _____ Grade (in Fall): _____

Child's name: _____ DOB: _____ Grade (in Fall): _____

Child's name: _____ DOB: _____ Grade (in Fall): _____

Child's name: _____ DOB: _____ Grade (in Fall): _____

Any allergies or conditions we should be aware of? _____

Permission form

I, _____ grant permission for the above stated child(ren) to participate in Totus Tuus and I warrant that my child(ren) is(are) in good health. In consideration of my child(ren)'s participation, I agree to indemnify St. Raphael Catholic Church and the Diocese of New Ulm from any claims or lawsuits brought against St. Raphael Church /Diocese of New Ulm by myself, my child(ren), or others, that arises out of any behavior by my child at Totus Tuus. I also agree to pay reasonable attorney's fees or expenses incurred by St. Raphael Catholic Church and the Diocese of New Ulm in defense of such a claim/suit. As parent or guardian, I agree to all of the above-stated considerations and conditions.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

<u>Video/Photograph Permission</u>
[] We consent to the use of any video images, photographs, audio recordings, or any other visual or audio reproductions that may be taken of our child/ward during the event to be used, distributed, or shown as the Diocese of New Ulm or parish sees fit.