



Vine & Branches Area Faith Community

www.vineandbranchesafc.org

June 25, 2023
12th 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 26	(Lamb)	7:00pm Farm Mass <i>Genesis 12:1-9; Matthew 7:1-5</i>
Tues June 27	(Spfld)	8:30am Mass –David Goedtke Family <i>Genesis 13:2, 5-18; Matthew 7:6, 12-14</i>
Wed June 28	(Lamb)	8:00am Mass <i>Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Matthew 7:15-20</i>
Thur. June 29	(Sanb)	8:00am Mass +Bobby Frericks Jr. <i>Acts of the Apostles 12:1-11; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18; Matthew 16:13-19</i>
Fri. June 30	(Spfld)	8:30am Mass +Norbert Sturm <i>Genesis 17:1, 9-10, 15-22; Matthew 8:1-4</i>
Sat. July 1	(Spfld)	5:30pm Mass +Lula Marz <i>Genesis 18:1-15; Matthew 8:5-17</i>
Sun. July 2	(Spfld) (Lamb)	8:30am Mass +Albert Hillesheim Family 10:30am Mass –For the People <i>2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a; Romans 6:3-4, 8-11; Matthew 10:37-42</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.

Last week I described the origins of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) and explained their charism in service of the Church. I want to say briefly what I hope to gain from joining the Society, as well as to offer some more personal remarks to you, my parishioners. I summarized the charism of the Jesuits thus: *their mission is to help others find God in all things, to encourage others to respond to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, and to lead them to love for Christ.* Already as a diocesan priest, I strive to put this same vision into practice: nothing brings me greater joy than when I see how others become more aware of the presence of God in their lives, and when they respond in faith and love to conform their lives more closely to His will. I have had seven happy years as a priest—mostly engaged in parish ministry—and I have often felt privileged to have a front-row seat beholding the spectacle of God’s grace effective in the lives of my parishioners. But, notwithstanding the many great experiences that I have been privileged to enjoy as a young priest, I have long felt a tug in my heart toward the Society of Jesus.

As a Jesuit priest, I will (eventually) make vows of obedience, chastity, and poverty. With these vows, I also promise to be totally disposed to go *wherever* I am needed, *whenever* I am needed, to serve the Church. There is a lot of freedom that comes with these promises: while they involve giving up things (some things I already committed myself to when I was ordained a priest—through the promises of celibacy, and obedience to my bishop), they also mean that I am free to be single-mindedly dedicated to Christ and to serving the Church. Any given Jesuit priest will have a long list of missions and apostolates that he does over his lifetime: teaching in schools, chaplaincy work, parish ministry, pastoral work in the foreign missions, spiritual direction, leading retreats...in short, you rarely get too comfortable with what you’re doing as a Jesuit, because there is always a new challenge and opportunity awaiting you. Above all, the Jesuits live out their vocation by ministering to youth, in particular through schools and work in education. This priority in caring for young people has long appealed to me, as I think that there is a special need to minister to our youth.

But, above all, this decision has come through years and years of prayer. I was quite resistant to the idea of becoming a Jesuit priest: while I have a spirit for adventure, I am also a homebody. I like to be close to family and friends, I value stability and routine, and I dislike change about as much as anyone around here...these values are not totally consistent with the life that awaits me as a Jesuit! When I first started feeling a call toward the Society of Jesus, I just sort of hoped that it would “go away” and that I could just live peacefully as a parish priest. But, the Lord has other plans it seems! After repeatedly praying about this decision, I have felt much peace as I look to this new chapter in life. My first two years in the Jesuits take place in the novitiate—a period of intense work, prayer, and discernment. The novitiate is also an austere time of life: I won’t be taking much with me during these next two years so that I can embrace the evangelical counsel of poverty in an intentional way. During my time as a novice, I will have a good opportunity to test this venture: and if it is indeed the Lord’s will, the novitiate will also give me the experience and training that I need to start out my ministry as a Jesuit priest in whatever awaits next.

This is the short-version of what I am looking forward to in the months ahead. I wish to conclude with a simple word of gratitude: I am sincerely thankful for the years that I have enjoyed in the parishes of St Raphael and St Joseph, and with the church of St Thomas. I know that I have learned a lot and grown a lot! You, my faithful parishioners and friends, have been overwhelmingly supportive of me—in good times and bad, in seasons of success and failure—and your love has been the greatest gift I have experienced. For my part, I have much love for you all and any excitement that I feel for the future is nevertheless tainted, in the present, by my regrets and sadness at having to leave. This is why I will treasure the Mass and the sacrament of Holy Communion all the more from having come to know you all: every time we are brought to the altar of the Lord’s Passion, we are united with the whole Church—past, present, and future; on earth and in heaven. And what joy it will be, each time I am at Mass, no matter where I am, to be so near to each of you in the Sacrament of Our Lord Jesus.

Let us pray for one another—and please, don’t be strangers! Once I have my mailing address figured out (I have no idea what it is at present) I will make sure that it is shared with you all so we can keep in touch. God bless you.

~Church of St. Joseph~

Meetings and Activities

June 25	10:30 am	Mass
June 26	7:00pm	Farm Mass at Jim & Sue Imker's
June 28	8:00am	Mass
June 29	8:00am	Mass—St. Thomas
July 2	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	\$58,846.35	\$69,137.86
Student	\$300.00	\$294.27	\$209.95
Loose Plate	\$2,500.00	\$2,452.08	\$2,436.92

Last Week's Parish Revenue-St. Joseph

Adult Envelope	\$835.00
Student Envelope	\$2.00
Loose Plate	\$2.00
Votive Candles	\$2.00
Faith Formation	\$70.00
Funeral Stipend	\$100.00
Total	\$1,009.00

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.
Eric Weber and Karen 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

July 2 Ministries

Lector	Doreen Kronback
EMC	Diane Arnsdorf
Servers	Emily Decock & Haydn Jenniges
Sacristan	Diane Arnsdorf
Ushers	Vern Hillesheim & Tom Anderson
Gift Bearers	Mike Hubert Family
Money Counters	Cathy Graff & Marg Weber



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.



We would like to welcome Cole & Tallie Jackson, to St. Joseph Parish Community. We are happy to welcome you to our parish family.

~Church of St. Raphael~

Contribution Budget July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023			
	Annual Budget	Budget to Date	Received to Date
Adults	\$335,000.00	\$328,557.81	\$317,134.48
Gr. 7-12	\$1,100.00	\$1,079.16	\$556.00
Pre K-6	\$1,100.00	\$1,079.16	\$10.00

Last week's Parish Revenue	
Adult Envelopes	\$3,718.00
Loose Plate	\$302.00
Capital Improvement	\$30.00
Parish Memorials	\$120.00
Choir Robe Donation	\$620.00
Tent Donation	\$500.00
Total Income	\$5,290.00

The 400 Club Winners this Week		
#97	Kahla Petersen	\$65.00
#76	Jack & Marleen Hartjes	\$65.00

~ Serving next Funeral will be Group H~

July 1 & 2, 2023		
	5:30pm	8:30am
Servers	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
	TJ Reindl	Paul Goedtke
Lector	Kathy Hillesheim	Jim Miesen
EMHC	Dcn Barry Reindl	Dcn Barry Reindl
Accompanist	Julie Prechel	Julie Prechel
Song Leader	Jack Hartjes	Julie Prechel
Rosary	Jane Irlbeck	TMIY Group
Head Usher	Dale Lindmeier	VOLUNTEER
	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
Videographer	VOLUNTEER	



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



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!

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.

~Good Neighbor Thrift ~

New Store Hours

Monday 9:00am-12:00pm
Tuesday-Friday 9:00-5:00pm
Saturday 9:00am-12:00pm

June 26-July 1

June 29th—Last Thursday of the Month

50% off all Clothing

Closed Tuesday, July 4th
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.

~Church of St. Raphael~

Meetings & Activities

June 25	8:30am	Mass
June 26	7:00pm	Farm Mass at Jim & Sue Imker's
June 27	8:30am	Mass
June 30	6:30-7:30am	That Man is You
	8:30am	Mass
July 1	5:30pm	Mass
July 2	8:30am	Mass

Summer Parish Office Hours

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

Hours may vary, please watch bulletin for notices.



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

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 8

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



ST. RAPHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH
FALL FESTIVAL
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH

Mass at 10:30 AM

Watch the bulletin for more information!

Please remember in your prayers:

† Our Shepherd of the Field:

Father Jeremy Kucera

Please pray for our parishioners this week~

Sun: Chris & Amanda Gartner Family

Mon: Tom & Linda Gartner

Tues: Lu Ann Gatzlaff

Wed: Marie Gervais & Duane Knutson

Thur: David & Kathleen Goedtke Family

Fri: Alma Gorski

Sat: Ethel Gostonczik

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



Worship in the Park



YOU ARE INVITED TO COMMUNITY WORSHIP DURING RIVERSIDE DAYS!

DATE: SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2023

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

PLACE: RIVERSIDE PARK SHELTER #3

Riverside Park is located on S. Cass Ave. - over the bridge in Springfield.

With Music from Gospel Express and other local musicians!

**THE OFFERING WILL BE DONATED TO THE
SPRINGFIELD AREA FOOD EMERGENCY PROGRAM.**

PLEASE BRING A LAWN CHAIR OR BLANKET

A few extra chairs will be available - first come, first served.



**Camping
visitors,
families, and
friends are all
welcome!**



We are beginning to collect donations for the Silent Auction for the 2023 Fall Festival. If you are interested in donating, please contact Sarah Boettger (507-227-5597) or Mariah Pietig (507-822-2634) before preparing your donation. We would like to make sure we have a variety of baskets/items and can help with theme ideas to ensure there are not several similar baskets. If you would like to donate but not prepare a basket, we will also accept monetary donations to put toward baskets that we can assemble.

~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 Org! 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 500 pairs of shoes and our goal is to collect 2,500 pairs!

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 ~

Parts of the Mass week 4:

The first rite of the Mass is called the Introductory Rite. So much happens in these very beginnings of the Mass that we don't really think about it because it is so familiar.

The servers, Deacon and Father process in. Father is there in Persona Christi, as the person of Christ, just like Jesus entering Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. The Sunday before the crucifixion.

The Mass begins when together we make the Sign of the Cross, we are calling upon God to be with us. Then with the greeting, "The Lord be with You" we are being called.

We have a short moment of silence where we think about our sins and then recite the penitential act. In this prayer we are asking God to forgive us for sins of our thoughts, words, what we have done and what we failed to do since the last time we came to Mass.

We then ask for mercy with the exchange of the Kyrie. "Lord have mercy" "Christ have mercy" "Lord have mercy".

Knowing God as a merciful God who does forgive us of our venial sins at that very moment, we sing His praise in the Gloria which sums up Jesus' saving mission from birth to Ascension.

After preparing ourselves individually, the priest prays the collect to which we all respond together "Amen".

The word Amen is more than just a word at the end of a prayer. It means "I agree" or "I stake my life on it". We are stating that this prayer is ours, even though it is Father who said the words, and that it is true.

Many places in the Gospels Jesus says, "Amen, Amen I say to you." He is saying "Listen up – what I am about to tell you is true." Sometime this phrase is translated "Truly, truly, I say to you." Next time you hear this phrase in the Gospel listen closely.

~Mrs. Karen Reindl

Teens, get your service hours completed in a fun way by volunteering to help with Totus Tuus! Volunteers will help the team with skits, walking with kids to other areas for bathroom break, snack and joining in with outside play time.

I divided each day up into two shifts, 9-11:30am and 11:30-2pm, although you can sign up for the full day!

Available times are:

Two volunteers for Monday July 17 11:30-2pm

Two volunteers for Tuesday, July 18 11:30-2pm

One volunteer for Wednesday, July 19 9-11:30am

One volunteer for Wednesday, July 19 11:30-2pm

Two volunteers for Thursday, July 20 9-11:30am

Two volunteers for Thursday, July 20 11:30-2pm

Two volunteers for Friday, July 21 9-11:30am

Two volunteers for Friday, July 21 11:30-2pm

Please email me at mrsreindl@straphaelpk-6.com with the day and times you would like to volunteer. The first to sign up gets the time! You can easily be finished with all of your service hours before the faith formation year even begins!



Only 3 more weeks before Totus Tuus begins! Our summer vacation Bible school will have two parts. Youth entering grades 1-6 will meet Monday, July 17-Friday July 21 from 9am-2pm daily. They will participate in games, Mass, and learning through skits.

Teens entering grades 7-12 will meet Sunday, July 16-Thursday, July 20 7:30pm-9:30pm. They will participate in games, adoration and engaging small group discussions. This is the week that the NET team encouraged you to attend!

Registration form is located on the last page of this bulletin.

I am looking for parishioners to host meals for the Totus Tuus team. Which consists of two young gentlemen and two young ladies, 4 total. Available meal dates are:

Sunday July 16 for lunch or supper

Monday, July 17 for 5:30pm supper

Tuesday, July 18 for 5:30pm supper

Wednesday will be a potluck however if you would like to host them the potluck could possibly be moved to a different day of the week.

Thursday, July 19 for 5:30pm supper

Friday, July 21 for supper

If you would like to bless your family with great conversation and getting to know one of the seminarians of our Diocese, Mr. David Rabaey, please contact Karen Reindl at mrsreindl@straphaelpk-6.com or call the parish office (723-4137) and leave a message with your name and number.

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? _____

Video/Photograph Permission

[] 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.

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: _____