



Vine & Branches Area Faith Community

www.vineandbranchesafc.org

March 10, 2024
4th Sunday of Lent

*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 Mar 11	No Mass <i>Isaiah 65:17-21; John 4:43-54</i>
Tues Mar 12	(Spfld) 8:30am Mass +Marcie Bigot <i>Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12; John 5:1-16</i>
Wed Mar 13	(Lamb) 8:00am Mass +Jim Wenisch <i>Isaiah 49:8-15; John 5:17-30</i>
Thur. Mar 14	(Sanb) 8:00m Mass +Lawrence & Ruth Schmidt <i>Exodus 32:7-14; John 5:31-47</i>
Fri. Mar 15	(Spfld) 8:30am Mass +Ernest & Loretta Ryan Family <i>Wisdom 2:1a, 12-22; John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30</i>
Sat. Mar 16	(Spfld) 5:30pm Mass +Bill Vogel <i>Jeremiah 11:18-20; John 7:40-53</i>
Sun. Mar 17	(Spfld) 8:30am Mass –For the People (Lamb) 10:30am Mass +Jim & Terry Wenisch <i>2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23; Ephesians 2:4-10; John 3:14-21</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**
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: 507-430-4349
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

Trisha Ludewig 723-4135
straysschooloffice@newulmtel.net

Sacrament of Reconciliation

- ✠ Saturday 4:30—5:15pm at **St. Raphael**
- ✠ Tuesday after Mass at **St. Raphael**
- ✠ Wednesday after Mass at **St. Joseph**
- ✠ Sunday before Mass at **St. Joseph** (when Father can get there in time)

◆ 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,

Some of you have been wondering about all of the construction that has been taking place at the rectory for the past couple of months. I have asked Denise and Mike Reiner to help fill everyone in on what has taken place over the past few years. Maybe when it is all done we'll have an open house so people can see what was done.

God's Blessings,

Fr. Jeremy

Father Phil asked the CCW group to come into the rectory and do a deep clean prior to Father Garrett's arrival, as the rectory was in need of floor to ceiling cleaning. CCW leadership had 50 plus parishioners including younger members of our parish help with this and many of us had never seen the rectory in its entirety. Needless to say, the rectory was in need of repair and replacement of the old furniture. Mike and I offered to do a walk through with Father Garrett, once he had settled in.

Father Garrett had taken the task upon himself, to remove carpets from some of the bedrooms, refinish the maple floors and create a chapel for daily prayers. He and his dad also pulled carpet out of the pastor's bathroom, added a much needed vanity and painted.

In April 2021, a small group including 2 administrative council members performed this walk through with suggested ideas based on what was found during the rectory cleaning and assessment of what was not working.

The air conditioning units that were mounted upstairs and downstairs were not in working order. This may have contributed to the mold that was found in some of the rooms upstairs when cleaning. We put together multiple suggestions including updating the air conditioning, a repair of many of the plaster ceilings, some of which had temporary fixes done in the past. Make a second shower upstairs functional. The downstairs kitchen was in need of updates, lighting was poor with a single noisy fluorescent light, prior cupboards had been refinished many years prior. The washer and dryer were historically installed into the small pantry in the kitchen, resulting in plaster peeling off the ceiling and walls. A recommendation was made to move the washer and dryer upstairs, repair the pantry, increase the lighting and recess the refrigerator into the space under the stairs to allow movement in the kitchen. It was also suggested to replace the cupboards, countertops to allow better storage and brighten the kitchen. Ceiling repair in the dining room was requested to fix the remaining panels. There were other improvements as part of the walk through some them relating to window treatment repairs etc.

This list was compiled and sent to the administrative group, where further actions were taken by the council members to procure services, products etc. for the project.

There have been donations to the rectory for specific furniture pieces, art work, stain glass window etc.

Denise and Mike Reiner

College care package. Are you a parent or grandparent of a current college student from the Diocese of New Ulm, DNU? Get us their mailing address and the Office of Vocations will send them a special "#DNU Care Package" just in time for stressful Mid-Term Exams! The package will include things like rice krispie or scotcheroo bars, beef jerky, and a Miraculous Medal blessed by Bishop Zielinski. When you email us your name, please include: the first and last name of your college student, mail address at college, year they will graduate, hometown, and home parish. You can email us at: vocations@dnu.org

~Church of St. Joseph~

Meetings and Activities

Mar 10	10:30am	Mass
Mar 11	7:00pm	CCW Meeting
Mar 13	8:00am	Mass
	6:30-7:30pm	Stations of the Cross with Classes to follow
Mar 14	8:00am	Mass—St. Thomas
Mar 17	10:30am	Mass

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

	Annual Budget	Budget to Date	Received to Date
Adults	62,000.00	\$42,923.16	\$43,206.76
Student	\$250.00	\$173.16	\$220.00
Loose Plate	\$2,500.00	\$1,730.88	\$2,336.65

Last Week's Parish Revenue—St. Joseph

Adult Envelopes	\$1,275.00
Student Envelope	\$6.00
Loose Plate	\$82.00
Total	\$1,363.00

Council of Catholic Women - Deanery 1

Spring Gathering

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Church of St. Mary

417 S. Minnesota Avenue, New Ulm, MN

Keynote Speaker

Gabrielle Cohrs Rohlik

Title: *"Finding Resilience: Nurturing Hope and Sisterhood in Times of Adversity"*



In times of trials and tribulations, when hope seems elusive, the essence of resilience shines brightest. In this speech, we delve into the depths of the human spirit, exploring how resilience is not merely a quality to possess, but a journey to embark upon. Join us as we embrace the journey of resilience, forging bonds of sisterhood that withstand the tests of time, and emerge stronger, united in faith and love.

5:00 PM - Registration
5:30 PM - Mass
6:15 PM - Meal
7:00 PM - Meeting & Speaker

Sign-up Today!

Registration: \$15.00

Please contact your parish president to register for the evening by Wednesday, March 13.

*Parish Presidents: Please call or text Arlyce Anderson at 507-317-0617 on Thursday, March 14 with the number attending from your parish.



CCW
Council of Catholic Women

This week we remember *these* people in our prayers.

Cody Pankonin and Cole Pankonin

Our Shepherd of the field:

Father Jeffrey Horejsi



~Please also pray for those in need ~

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

March 17 Ministries

Lector Brenda Derickson
EMC Gordy Wille
Servers Sydney Vogel & Lou Vogel
Sacristan Diane Arnsdorf
Ushers Larry Weber & Jason Axford
Gift Bearers Mark Vogel Family
Money Counters Marg Weber & Katie Wille

Weekly Faith Formation Schedule

Wednesday, March 13

6:30-7:30pm Stations of the Cross with Faith Formation Classes to follow.

If you have Religious articles such as crosses, rosaries, etc and no longer have a need for them but do not want to throw them away, there is a box under the church mailboxes that you can put them in.



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

**St. Thomas Hosting
VALLEY VIEW BIRTHDAY PARTY
March 19, 2023
2:00 p.m.**

We'll play bingo with the residents and serve lunch. We are no longer allowed to bring desserts from home so will purchase treats and some bingo prizes. Please let Judi know if you are able to assist. Thanks.

507-920-3337

~Church of St. Raphael~

Contribution Budget July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024			
	Annual Budget	Budget to Date	Received to Date
Adults	\$335,000.00	\$231,923.16	\$239,491.95
Gr. 7-12	\$1,100.00	\$761.76	\$10.00
Pre K-6	\$1,100.00	\$761.76	\$0.00

Last week's Parish Revenue	
Adult Envelopes	\$8,905.81
Loose Plate	\$457.50
DUF	\$5.00
Red Heart Envelope	\$10.00
Capital Improvement	\$10.00
Easter	\$80.00
Teacher Support	\$35.00
School Memorial	\$20.00
Youth Choir Donation	\$81.00
Fuel & Heat	\$30.00
Adopt a Student	\$25.00
Good Neighbor Thrift Store	\$586.06
Total Income	\$10,245.37


The 400 Club Winners this Week		
#175	Deb Janni	\$65.00
\$386	Nick Dauer	\$65.00
~ Serving next Funeral will be Group E ~		
March 16 & 17, 2024		
	5:30pm	8:30am
Servers	VOLUNTEER	Austin Landkammer
	VOLUNTEER	Evelyn Landkammer
Lector	Kathy Hillesheim	VOLUNTEER
EMHC	Kathy Hillesheim	Dcn Barry Reindl
Accompanist	TBA	Kathleen Goedtke
Song Leader	TBA	Bailey Cords
Rosary	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
Head Usher	Dale Lindmeier	Bracey Learner
	Maddy Digmann	Brooklyn Sturm
	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
Videographer	Brayden Sturm	

Lenten Stations of the Cross

Friday, March 8 at 5:30pm
Friday, March 15 at 5:30pm
Friday, March 22 at 5:30pm

Lenten Adoration and Confession
Sunday, March 24, 2024 at 7:00pm

Join us for Adoration and Confession. We will have 3 visiting priests here to help with confession.



Save the date...our Drive Thru Men's Sausage Dinner will be Saturday, April 6, 2024.

In order to make this project a success; we need the help of all parishioners. Cash Donations are needed for the dinner. Due to the fact that we do not have a federally inspected locker nearby, we are accepting cash donations to help pay for the meat. Please contact Randy Sturm 507-220-4874 or Michael Vogel 507-920-5694 by **Sunday, March 24, 2024** if you are able to help. There will be a \$1500 matching grant from the Catholic order of Foresters.

As people may or may not know, St. Raphael is currently considering a capital campaign to raise the funds needed to make improvements to our church and school.

As a preliminary step to this effort, we're conducting a Fundraising Feasibility & Planning Study to obtain member feedback and assess our financial potential.

There are a few ways you are invited to participate:

Informational meetings where we'll share our plans and welcome your comments, questions and suggestions. The meetings will be held next weekend after each service. Everyone is invited to attend.

Our Fundraising Consultant will interview some of our members the following week.


Beginning on Saturday, March 23rd at 7pm we will open an Online Survey which is available through Monday, April 1st at 7pm. We'll provide a link where you can read about the project, and then complete and submit the survey questionnaire online.

Your feedback is important to us. So please plan to participate if you can.


~Church of St. Raphael~

Meetings & Activities


Mar 10	8:30am	Mass
Mar 11		NO School
		Parish Office Closed
Mar 12	8:30am	Mass
	4:00-5:30pm	Atrium
Mar 13	5:00-6:00pm	Preschool Open House
	5:00-6:00pm	Children's Choir Practice
	6:00-7:00pm	Faith Formation Classes grades 1-6
	6:00-7:00pm	Praise & Worship Choir Practice
	7:15-8:15pm	Faith Formation Classes grades 7-12
	8:15pm	Youth Group
Mar 15		NO School
		Parish Office Closed
	6:30-7:30am	That Man is You
	8:30am	Mass
	9:30am-4:00pm	Adoration
	5:30pm	Stations of the Cross
Mar 16	5:30pm	Mass
Mar 17	8:30am	Mass
		Rolls sold after Mass



The Parish Office will be CLOSED
Monday, March 11, 2024 and Friday,
March 15, 2024.



Please remember in your prayers *Evelyn Eischen*, mother of Glen Eischen, who recently passed away. We extend our prayers and sympathy to her family and friends. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord.



Please remember in your prayers *Emmett Haala*, who recently passed away. We extend our prayers and sympathy to his family and friends. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord.

Please remember in your prayers:

✠ Our Shepherd of the Field:
Father Steven Verhelst

Please pray for our parishioners this week~

Sun: Michelle Roiger Family
 Mon: Neil & Alissa Roiger Family
 Tues: Nick & Jenna Roiger Family
 Wed: Jeff & Sue Rosenstengel Family
 Thur: Justin Rosenstengel
 Fri: Chris & Ashley Rothmeier Family
 Sat: JoAnn Rothmeier

Weekly Candle Intentions (\$5.00 offering)
 Special Inten Special Inten Special Inten DGF


✠ 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 5**
 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.

~Good Neighbor Thrift ~
Mar 11—15
50% off Dresses, Shoes & Purses
Accepting Spring/ Summer Clothing

Springfield Area Food Shelf is open Tuesday evenings 4:30-7:00 PM and Thursday mornings 9:00-11:30 AM. We are looking for volunteers to help with various jobs - call Shari Koll at 507-227-0386 to volunteer.



Catholic Charities provides personal, marriage, and family counseling. In-person sessions are now available. Call 866-670-5163 (toll free) or 507-233-5318 (local).

~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!

Thank You: Thank you to everyone who helped sell tickets for the Catholic United Financial Raffle and to everyone who supported the fundraiser by purchasing tickets! It was a great success! Every penny from this fundraiser stays right here at St. Raphael Catholic School and goes to the general operational budget of the school. The total raised from this fundraiser was \$10,130.

I Love to Read Month: We had a fun four weeks of focusing on the fun and importance of reading! Each week, we had a special reader with activities. Thanks to Justin Hillesheim, Linda Roiger, and John Nicholson for being our Mystery Readers! Thanks also to Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Nachreiner who planned the whole month. Throughout the four weeks, the students worked toward a whole-school reading goal and they exceeded their goal! They got to "slime" a teacher based on how many minutes they read during the month!

Godly Virtues: In March, we will be focusing on respect, which is acknowledging the dignity of all people. 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.

This Wednesday! Preschool Open House: We will be hosting a Preschool Open House on Wednesday March 13th from 5:00-6:00 PM for any students and their parents interested in our 3-year old Little Panthers program or our 4-year old Kindergarten Readiness program. Families will tour the school, check out the classrooms, hear information about preschool and the school, and get registration information. We invite all who are curious or interested in enrolling to attend! Spread the word with friends or family with preschool-age students about this event!

Calendar Change: There is a calendar change! On the original school calendar, there was no school Thursday March 14th. There will now be school on Thursday March 14th. This has now been changed to no school on Friday March 15th. Teachers will be attending a Faith Formation Day in Redwood Falls with Dr. Sri as the keynote speaker.

Upcoming School Masses:

Tuesday March 12-Mrs. Nachreiner/Staff Mass
Friday March 22-Mrs. Vogel/Staff Mass
Tuesday March 26-Mrs. Steffl/Staff Mass

Upcoming Dates:

March 11: No School, Teacher In-service
March 15: No School, Teacher Faith Formation Day
March 12: Stations of the Cross @ 2:15 for staff and students gr 3-6
March 13: Preschool Open House
March 25: Stations of the Cross @ 8:30 am for staff and students gr 3-6

Blessings,

Mrs. Beth Steffl



There will be **NO school at St. Raphael** on Monday, March 11, 2024 or Friday, March 15, 2024.



St Raphael School will be selling rolls after Mass on Sunday, March 17, 2024.



Help our environment & St. Raphael School ~ In an effort to raise money for our school, we are asking that you please donate all empty/used Inkjet Cartridges. Cartridges should be placed in a Ziploc/

plastic bag or wrapped in cellophane to prevent leakage. For those with toner cartridges, please email straphaeltechcord@gmail.com with brand & model before dropping off at school.

~Youth & Adult Faith Formation ~

Thank you to grades 5 and 10 for leading each of the Faith Formation groups in praying the Stations of the Cross. Both elementary and teens then had a few minutes of adoration after. Could have heard a pin drop! I LOVE it!

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, April 10! It is the Celebration of Faith Fundraiser for the Faith Formation program. This is the one and only fund raiser we do that supports the education of Faith Formation students, RCIA candidates, Marriage prep and adult education.

~Mrs. Karen Reindl

Weekly Faith Formation Schedule

Wednesday, March 13

6:00-7:00pm Faith Formation Classes grades 1-6
7:15-8:15pm Faith Formation Classes grades 7-12
8:15pm Youth Group

Youth Choir Schedule

Wednesday, March 13

5:00-6:00pm Children's Choir Practice
6:00-7:00pm Praise & Worship Choir Practice

the
generosity
habit

by Matthew Kelly:

This week, listen. Set aside your thoughts, ideas and agenda, and really listen to what the other person is saying to you. Instead of standing beside someone on your phone ask how their day is going and then fully listen to the answer. Listening is the most important communication skill.

Mark your calendars! Totus Tuus will be here this summer Sunday, July 14-Thursday July 18. Elementary students will have their time M-Th during the day and teens will meet Sunday-Thurs in the evenings. More information to come!

Catholic United Financial Matching Grant

Cinnamon & Caramel Roll Sale

Saturday, March 23, 2024

5:00-7:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 24, 2024

8:00-10:00 am

St Raphael Church Gathering Space

Springfield MN



Sponsored by: St. Boniface Catholic United Council #035

All proceeds benefit St. Raphael Religious Education

"This event is eligible for a matching grant from Catholic United Financial of up to \$1000".

Catholic United is a member-owned, not-for-profit financial services company, connecting people of faith, protecting their future and generously impacting parishes, schools and communities.



Senior Vice President & General Counsel
David Schonhardt, Esq.
Call or Fax: (762) 470-9058
dschonhardt@catholicunitedfinancial.com
catholicunitedfinancial.org/prg-david.schonhardt

Catholic United Financial

St. Raphael's Rome Trip Tastefully Simple Fundraiser

tastefullysimple.
INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT
Diana Windschild #0027650

To order you can go to
<https://www.tastefullysimple.com/p/11511936>
OR
use your mobile device and scan the QR Code to
get to the fundraiser & shop online.



Perfect time to stock your cupboards, and get great gifts for someone or for yourself. Help St. Raphael raise some \$\$\$\$ You can help them reach their goal.



Online Catalog.

Fundraiser runs March 2—March 27th, 2024
St. Raphael Parish Rome youth attendees earn the profits from your online order.

~Upcoming Area Events~

**All You Can Eat Pancake
Breakfast**

Sunday March 10, 2024

Serving 9:00 a.m – 12:00 p.m

Springfield American Legion



Adults \$8.00 Students \$5.00

Breakfast includes: all you can eat pancakes, sausage, juice, milk, and coffee

Sponsored by the Springfield FFA Alumni

Fundraiser profits used for Springfield FFA Scholarships and

Leadership Activities



Feb 26 → April 6th, 2024 MARCH Campaign

**STRETCH YOUR
DONATION**

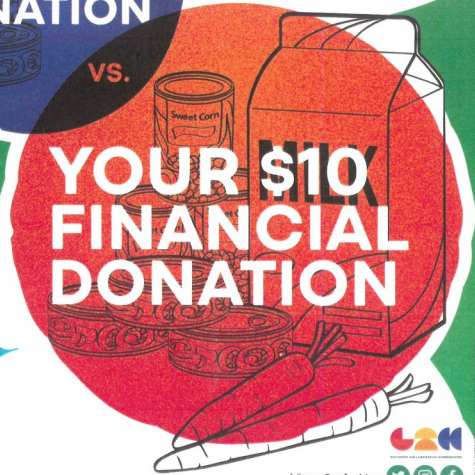
Springfield Area Food Shelf
P.O. Box 15
Springfield, MN 56087

**YOUR \$10
FOOD
DONATION**



VS.

**YOUR \$10
FINANCIAL
DONATION**



**GIVE MORE BY MAKING A
CASH DONATION TO YOUR
LOCAL FOOD SHELF.**

Financial donations go further due to access to food banks and discount purchasing programs, allowing food shelves to purchase items most needed in their community.



Follow us @mnfoodshare

Please join us at 6 East on Saturday, March 16, 2024 from 5:00-8:30pm for a fun fundraising event for the St. Raphael Faith Formation students attending the 2024 Rome Jubilee Year Pilgrimage Trip.

We will have an Irish Menu & Irish Beverages.

In addition to a fun Irish themed evening out, you can meet the students planning to attend the Pilgrimage and visit with them and find out their “why”.

Reservations are recommended but not required. You can contact 6 East at 723-3278.

Interested in taking part in the Eucharistic Revival in a big way? All are encouraged to join our diocesan pilgrimage to the Star of the North Congress in Bemidji, MN May 17-19, 2024. Pick up locations are scheduled for Redwood Falls, Darwin, Winsted, Willmar, and Watkins. Visit <https://www.dnu.org/diocesan-events/2024/5/17/3-day-pilgrimage-to-bemidji-lake-itasca-and-watkins> to learn more and register by April 1.

**Catholic United
Financial**



Sponsored by St. Michael's Catholic United Financial Council

Member Advisor: Brian Zitzmann

701-238-3643

bzitzmann@catholicunited.org

“This event is eligible for a Matching Grant from Catholic United Financial of up to \$ 1,000.00”

Rummage Sale & Lunch

Friday, March 15, 2024

9 AM – 6 PM

Saturday, March 16, 2024

8 AM – 1 PM

Most items \$ 0.25

\$ 2 Bag and Bargain Sale on Saturday from 8-1

Good selection of clean, useable clothing and miscellaneous items

St. Michael's Catholic Church Social Hall in Morgan

510 West 3rd Street

DINE IN & TAKE OUT FOOD

Rolls, Coffee and Juice served in the Morning. BBQ, Hot Turkey or Egg Salad Sandwich, Chips, Applesauce, Pickles, Bar & Beverage starting at 10:00.

Handicap Accessible. Everyone Welcome.