

Vine & Branches Area Faith Community

www.vineandbranchesafc.org

November 12, 2023 32nd 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 Nov 13		NO Mass Wisdom 1:1-7; Luke 17:1-6
Tues Nov 14	(Spfld)	8:30am Mass +Loretta Wenisch <i>Wisdom 2:23-3:9; Luke 17:7-10</i>
Wed Nov 15	(Lamb)	8:00am Mass +Eileen Pulkrabet <i>Wisdom 6:1-11; Luke 17:11-19</i>
Thur. Nov 16	(Sanb)	8:00am Mass +Rosie Fromm <i>Wisdom 7:22b-8:1; Luke 17:20-25</i>
Fri. Nov 17	(Spfld)	8:30am Mass +Richard Duea <i>Wisdom 13:1-9; Luke 17:26-37</i>
Sat. Nov 18	(Spfld)	5:30pm Mass +Bill Vogel <i>Wisdom 18:14-16; 19:6-9; Luke 18:1-8</i>
Sun. Nov 19	(Spfld) (Lamb)	8:30am Mass + Caroline Fromm 10:30am Mass - For the People Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6; Matthew 25:14-30

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

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: 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

Trisha Ludewig 723-4135 straysschooloffice@newulmtel.net

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 mentioned a desire to really learn how to pray and to know when God is communicating with you. If you're interested in going deeper in the spiritual life I'd like to offer the following which may be of great help in beginning to learn how to follow the prominent active movements of our thoughts, feelings and desires that God uses to communicate with us. I hope you enjoy.

From the life of Saint Ignatius from his own words by Luis Gonzalez (Cap. 1, 5-9: Acta Sanctorum, Julii, 7 [1898], 647)

Put inward experiences to the test to see if they come from God

Ignatius was passionately fond of reading worldly books of fiction and tales of knight-errantry. When he felt he was getting better, he asked for some of these books to pass the time. But no book of that sort could be found in the house; instead they gave him a life of Christ and a collection of the lives of saints written in Spanish.

By constantly reading these books he began to be attracted to what he found narrated there. Sometimes in the midst of his reading he would reflect on what he had read. Yet at other times he would dwell on many of the things which he had been accustomed to dwell on previously. But at this point our Lord came to his assistance, insuring that these thoughts were followed by others which arose from his current reading.

While reading the life of Christ our Lord or the lives of the saints, he would reflect and reason with himself: "What if I should do what Saint Francis or Saint Dominic did?" In this way he let his mind dwell on many thoughts; they lasted a while until other things took their place. Then those vain and worldly images would come into his mind and remain a long time. This sequence of thoughts persisted with him for a long time.

But there was a difference. When Ignatius reflected on worldly thoughts, he felt intense pleasure; but when he gave them up out of weariness, he felt dry and depressed. Yet when he thought of living the rigorous sort of life he knew the saints had lived, he not only experienced pleasure when he actually thought about it, but even after he dismissed these thoughts, he still experienced great joy. Yet he did not pay attention to this, nor did he appreciate it until one day, in a moment of insight, he began to marvel at the difference. Then he understood his experience: thoughts of one kind left him sad, the others full of joy. And this was the first time he applied a process of reasoning to his religious experience. Later on, when he began to formulate his spiritual exercises, he used this experience as an illustration to explain the doctrine he taught his disciples on the discernment of spirits.

God's blessings,

Fr. Jeremy

A PRAYER FOR VETERANS DAY

Lord God, You have sustained our nation in the past and continue to bless us. We recall how so many have given their lives for the cause of freedom. Men and women continue to sacrifice and serve in the armed forces. Today, we pause to reflect and honor those who gave or who continue to sacrifice so much in the defense of our freedom to be faithful.

~Church of St. Joseph~

Meetings and Activities

Nov 12	10:30am	Mass
Nov 15	8:00am	Mass
	6:30-7:30pm	Faith Formation Class grade 1-2 Reconciliation Grades 3-11
Nov 16	8:00am	Mass—St. Thomas
Nov 19	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	\$22,653.89	\$19,150.10
Student	\$250.00	\$91.39	\$95.00
Loose Plate	\$2,500.00	\$913.52	\$1,330.55

Last Week's Parish Rever	nue-St. Joseph
Adult Envelope	\$1,884.10
Student Envelope	\$9.00
Loose Plate	\$122.30
Total	\$2,015.40



Please remember in your prayers Herb Scheffler, who recently passed away. We extend our prayers and sympathy Kurt, Emily, & Maia Scheffler. Eternal rest grant unto him,

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service will be held on Wednesday, November 22, 2023, at Our Savior's Church, Lamberton, at 7:00pm.



EXCITING NEWS!!! Our Area Faith Community has determined it is time for our new pictorial church directory. Our dates for photography will be: November 20 & 21 in Lamberton and November 24 & 25 and November 28—December 2 in Springfield.

Sign up is now available online at www.ucdir.com, click on photography appointment scheduling login on the right side, enter mn371 in the Church Code and enter photos in the password field. If your family consists of 6 or more people, please use 2 consecutive time slots.

This week we remember these people in our prayers.

Amy Gramstad and Lucille Hagert

Our Shepherd of the field:

Father Jeffrey Horejsi



~Please also pray for those in need ~

Bruce Olson Mary Arnoldi Pat Dauer

Barb Axford Linda Riley **Bob Peterson**

Marcie Anderson Brett Baumann

November 19 Ministries

Jane Zimmermann Lector

EMC Gordy Wille

Sydney Vogel & Lou Vogel Servers

Diane Arnsdorf Sacristan

Kevin Zimmermann & Mike Hubert Ushers

Gift Bearers Jared Wenisch Family

Money Counters Diane Arnsdorf & Katy Wille

Weekly Faith Formation Schedule

Wednesday, November 15

6:30-7:30pm Faith Formation Class—grades 1 & 2 Reconciliation Service—grades 3-11



Please pray for the following students as they prepare for their upcoming Sacraments:

First Reconciliation/Communion - Scarlett Frasher

Confirmation – Maia Scheffler & Sydney Vogel

2023 Diocesan Ministries Appeal (DMA)

This past week the 2023 Diocesan Ministries Appeal letter was mailed to all homes in the diocese. This year's theme is, "One in Christ." The DMA offers us an opportunity to do our part to support the ministries that help to build the Church right here in the Diocese of New Ulm—ministries and services that no single parish could provide.

Your contributions to the DMA reach individuals and families across the diocese, providing family and crisis counseling, emergency assistance, religious and spiritual formation, and supporting our seminarians. weren't able to be at mass this weekend, you can watch the DMA video or donate online at https://www.dnu.org/ dma.

Next weekend is DMA Commitment Sunday. Be assured that your gift will only be used to support those ministries designated in the DMA brochure and no other.

~Church of St. Raphael~

Contribution Budget July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024			
	Annual Budget	Budget to Date	Received to Date
Adults	\$335,000.00	\$122,403.89	\$84,497.00
Gr. 7-12	\$1,100.00	\$402.04	\$0.00
Pre K-6	\$1,100.00	\$402.04	\$0.00

Last week's Parish Reve	nue
Adult Envelopes	\$3,350.00
Loose Plate	\$572.15
DUF	\$10.00
Red Heart Envelope	\$15.00
Teacher Support	\$45.00
All Saints Day	\$162.00
Adopt a Student	\$30.00
Coffee Connection	\$14.50
400 Club Profit	\$13,100.00
Total Income	\$17,298.65

Dear Church It's time for a	family, New Directory!
Celebrating faith. Connecting families. Sharing hope.	Connections Event Our church directory will not be complete without you. Join us to celebrate

our church they are looking for a place to belong. Our directory brings us together to develop new relationships, connect with our own families, and reconnect with those we haven't seen in a while. Join us for this "Connections Event" and be part of what God is doing right here at our church!

When people enter the doors of

Directory Committee

faith and family with our new church family album.

- · Schedule your professional photography session when you stop by the sign-up table at the church or simply go online and follow the instructions below. If we don't see your name on our list of appointments, you will receive a phone call inviting you to participate.
- · Everyone who is photographed by Universal will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a directory!
- Universal provides a complete professional portrait studio right here at our church: You'll enjoy a variety of poses, backgrounds, portrait sizes, finish and framing options AND have the opportunity to purchase portraits to give to family and friends.

Set your appointment with Universal today!

Gathering families,

Connecting generations. UNIVERSAL CHURCH DIRECTORIES



Online Scheduling Available!

To schedule your photography appointment online, simply go to www.ucdir.com, click on photography appointment scheduling login on the right side, enter mm371 in the Church Code field and enter photos in the Church Password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 6 or more in your family, please use 2 consecutive time slots. The online scheduling option is available Monday through Friday. Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time.

	The 400 Club Winners th	is Week
#399	Jill Riederer	\$65.00
#308	Ramsey Beyer	\$65.00
#104	Mike (Eugene) Lang	\$65.00
#114	Janet Wenisch	\$65.00
	~ Serving next Funeral will	be Group C~

November 18 & 19, 2023			
	5:30p	m	8:30am
Servers	VOI	UNTEER	Austin Landkammer
	VOI	UNTEER	Evelyn Landkammer
Lector	Paul Pi	eschel	Mariah Pietig
ЕМНС	Paul Pi	eschel	Den Barry Reindl
Accompanist	Sharon	Pieschel	Kathleen Goedtke
Song Leader		TBA	TBA
Rosary	Jane Irl	beck	VOLUNTEER
•	Jane Irl Dean W		VOLUNTEER Steve Woidylla
Rosary Head Usher		Valter	
•	Dean W	Valter Valter	Steve Woidylla
•	Dean W Jaden V Alexis	Valter Valter	Steve Woidylla Donna Woidylla



The Parish Office will be CLOSED for Friday, November 17, 2023.



NOTICE....St. Raphael Church and Gathering Space will be CLOSED for carpet cleaning from 8:00am Wednesday, November 22nd until 8:00am Thursday, November 23rd

(Thanksgiving Day). Please DO NOT enter the church or gathering space during this time.

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 your good marriage great! The available weekend is Nov 17-19, 2023 in WINDOM, 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~

Meetings & Activities

Nov 12	8:30am	Mass
		Coffee Connection
Nov 14	8:30am	School Mass
	9:15am	Adult Faith Formation in Holy Family Room
	4:00-5:30pm	Atrium
	6:00pm	2nd Grade Parent Mtg in gathering space
Nov 15	5:00-6:00pm	Children's Choir Practice
	6:00-7:00pm	Praise& Worship Choir Practice
	6:00-7:00pm	Faith Formation grades 1-6
	7:15-8:15pm	Faith Formation grades 7-10
Nov 16		School Out at 1:20pm
Nov 16	3:00-8:00pm	•
Nov 16	3:00-8:00pm 6:30pm	•
	•	Parent/Teacher Conferences CCW Meeting in church basement
	6:30pm	Parent/Teacher Conferences CCW Meeting in church basement
	6:30pm 6:30-7:30am	Parent/Teacher Conferences CCW Meeting in church basement That Man is You
	6:30pm 6:30-7:30am	Parent/Teacher Conferences CCW Meeting in church basement That Man is You Mass
Nov 17	6:30pm 6:30-7:30am	Parent/Teacher Conferences CCW Meeting in church basement That Man is You Mass NO SCHOOL at St. Raphael
Nov 17	6:30pm 6:30-7:30am 8:30am 5:30pm	Parent/Teacher Conferences CCW Meeting in church basement That Man is You Mass NO SCHOOL at St. Raphael Parish Office CLOSED

~Good Neighbor Thrift ~

Monday-Friday 9:30am-4:00pm Saturday 9:00am-12:00pm

November 13-18 50% off Women's Sweaters

Congratulations to the Holiday Open House Winners Kathy Soupir, Doreen Vogel, Eileen Kohlhof, and Amy Welch

Now accepting Fall/Winter Clothing Donations

Please remember in your prayers:

♣ Our Shepherd of the Field:

Father Steven Verhelst

Please pray for our parishioners this week~ Sun: Dennis & Janice Meidl

Sun: Dennis & Janice Meidl Mon: James & Joy Meidl Family

Tues: Mike Meidl

Wed: Randy & Lori Meidl

Thur: Andrew & Erin Meine Family Fri: Kevin & Tina Meine Family

Sat: Kurt & Lois Meine

Weekly Candle Intentions (\$5.00 offering)

Special Intentions

†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

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

*The Future Depends of Love—Episode 7

THANK

Thank you to all those who helped support the 400 Club Fundraiser. A special "huge" thank you to all our loyal ticket sellers for their time, energy and dedication selling them. They are Duane Dauer, Marie Gervais, Diane Hauth, Mike Reiner, Paula Roiger,

Judy Schroeder, Dennis Tauer, Paul Tauer, Dan Vogel, and to our office staff, Raquel Kieper, and Connie Vogel.

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.

~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!

Candy Bar Sales and Advent Calendars: We still have some candy bars in the office for sale for \$1.00 per bar. We have wafer, crisp, and almond varieties left! Seek out a St. Raphael Catholic School family or stop by the office to purchase some! We also have chocolate Advent calendars for sale for \$5.00 each. We have two different styles. To purchase one, please contact a St. Raphael Catholic School family or stop by the school office to get one! All proceeds from the candy bar fundraiser will go directly to support the school general budget. The Advent Calendar fundraiser goes to our PTT committee, which supports the school through classroom stipends, field trips, and student incentives and extras!

Upcoming School Masses: Please join us for school Masses at 8:30a.m.

Tuesday November 14: Grade 3 leads Tuesday November 21: Grade 2 leads Friday December 1: Grade 6 leads

Friday December 8: Grade 1 leads (Holy Day)

Faith Formation Day for Teachers: The teachers and I attended the Diocesan Faith Formation day on Monday November 6th at St. Aloysius in Olivia, MN. Mary Hasson was the Keynote speaker. She is the Kate O'Beirne Fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington D.C. She is an attorney and policy expert, in support of Catholic teachings. The breakout session topics include Virtues in Practice, Catholic Social Teaching, Catholic Identity Standards in Mathematics, Sexual Identity, Eucharistic Adoration with Children, Discipleship in Ministry, and Theology of the Body. Teachers attended the Keynote speaker, learned about Diocesan Policy, attended Mass, had lunch, and attended breakout sessions. It was a great day of learning!

Spaghetti Supper: Thank you to all who came out to eat at our schools' Spaghetti Supper! We appreciate your support. All proceeds from this meal go to the school general budget.

Parent/Teacher Conferences: School will be dismissed early on Thursday November 16th at 1:20p.m. Parent/Teacher Conferences for K-6th grade students are that evening from 3:00-8:00p.m. Our Kindergarten Readiness preschool students will have conferences in the spring. There will be no school on Friday November 17th for staff or students.

Apple Pies and Apple Crisps: Marie Gervais is once again making apple pies and crisps and selling them for \$10 each. All proceeds go to the school! If you would like to purchase one, please call the school office to make your order!

Veterans Day Program: Thank you to the Springfield American Legion, students, staff, and community members for making our Veterans Day program a great success! It is so important to take the time to honor individuals in the armed services and to teach our youth about what they do and how it impacts us! We are grateful for all who attended and helped with this special event!

Save the Date: Please save the date for our St. Raphael Catholic School annual Christmas program on Wednesday December 6th at 6:30p.m.

Blessings, Mrs. Beth Steffl



The school office is in need of winter hats, mittens, and gloves (child and small adult sizes) for our students to use at recess when they don't have the necessary warm clothes for the winter weather. If you can donate new or gently used items, please drop them off in the school office. Thank you!



We are taking orders for apple pies and apple crisps! Please call Trisha in the Office at 507-723-4135 to place your pie/crisp order! Cost is \$10.00 each.

School Office Hours

Monday-Friday 7:30am—3:30pm

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



There will be **NO school at St. Raphael** on Friday, November 17, 2023.

~Youth & Adult Faith Formation ~

"Presence The Mystery of the Eucharist." Our last Tuesday time is November 14 at 9:15am in the Holy Family Room. Gathering 5 = Biblical Foundations of the Eucharist (Protestant and Secular)
If you missed this study but want to do it on your own you can log into FORMED!

Teens in grades 9-12 have an opportunity to attend NET Lifeline on Saturday, December 2 – expand yourself to others in the diocese and Minnesota wide! See the flier in the bulletin. Permission slips are on the Faith Formation table – hurry because we only have 12 spots on the bus reserved!

~Mrs. Karen Reindl

Weekly Faith Formation Schedule

Wednesday, November 15

6:00-7:00pm Faith Formation Classes grades 1-6 7:15-8:15pm Faith Formation Classes grades 7-10



Grades 11 & 12

We will meet for class on November 15, 2023

Reminder to Parents of second graders: The parent meeting is this Tuesday, November 14 at 6:00pm in the church basement. This meeting is for parents, you do not need to bring your second grader.



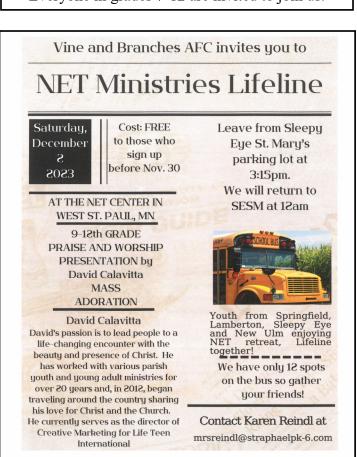
Youth Choir Schedule

Wednesday, November 15

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



Join us on Wednesday, November 29, 2023, at 8:15pm for Youth Group!
Everyone in grades 7-12 are invited to join us.



~Upcoming Area Events~

Upcoming Area Events....

The Springfield Nativity Pageant is coming up Friday, December 9 and Saturday, December 10. A community choir will once again be a part of the pageant. All singers are encouraged to join the choir. Jeff Krueger will be the director this year. Some music changes have been made.

Nativity Choir rehearsals will be held Sunday, November 26 and Sunday, December 3 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church (use the ramp entrance). These are evening rehearsals due to schedule conflicts. Music and choir robes, etc. will be available at the rehearsals. Rehearsals are important since we are adding three new selections this year.

Questions may be directed to Jeff at office.aps@newulmtel.net or 507-723-4321. Hope to see you there and have a large choir this year!!

Catholic Financial Life members & guests: A Night with Lorie Line \$25 reduced priced tickets for members & their guests at New Ulm High School on December 1, 2023 7:00 p.m. Contact Heather Hoffmann for tickets 612 -756-1369 or heathersuehoffmann@gmail.com





