



Vine & Branches Area Faith Community

www.vineandbranchesafc.org

October 8, 2023
27th 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 Oct 9	NO Mass <i>Jonah 1:1-2:2, 11; Luke 10:25-37</i>
Tues Oct 10	(Spfld) NO Mass <i>Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 10:38-42</i>
Wed Oct 11	(Lamb) 8:00am Mass <i>Jonah 4:1-11; Luke 11:1-4</i>
Thur. Oct 12	(Sanb) 8:00am Mass +Ruth Schmidt <i>Malachi 3:13-20b; Luke 11:5-13</i>
Fri. Oct 13	(Spfld) 8:30am Mass +Doris Weber <i>Joel 1:13-15; 2:1-2; Luke 11:15-26</i>
Sat. Oct 14	(Spfld) 5:30pm Mass +Bernice Manderfeld <i>Joel 4:12-21; Luke 11:27-28</i>
Sun. Oct 15	(Spfld) 8:30am Mass –For the People (Lamb) 10:30am Mass +Jim & Terry Wenisch <i>Isaiah 25:6-10a; Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20; Matthew 22:1-14</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. 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

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

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

◆Prayer Chain

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

◆Good Neighbor Thrift Store 723-5778

20 E. Central, Springfield, MN

◆Office of Catholic Charities 866-670-5163

Baptism: Pre-baptism classes required - Contact AFC Office

Suggested Stipend for Sacrament of Baptism—\$25.00

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

►Mass Stipend \$10.00

►Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday at 1:00pm

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

Hello everyone,

This past week we celebrated the feast day of the Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael. Since one of our parishes is named after one of the three archangels mentioned by name in the bible I thought I would include this homily given by Saint Gregory the Great on the topic. I hope you enjoy it and learn from it as I did. In order to celebrate the feast at school the kids got extra recess and some Starburst candy at lunch. I am wondering how you St. Raphael parishioners celebrated your feast day.

Here is the homily:

You should be aware that the word “angel” denotes a function rather than a nature. Those holy spirits of heaven have indeed always been spirits. They can only be called angels when they deliver some message. Moreover, those who deliver messages of lesser importance are called angels; and those who proclaim messages of supreme importance are called archangels.

And so it was that not merely an angel but the archangel Gabriel was sent to the Virgin Mary. It was only fitting that the highest angel should come to announce the greatest of all messages.

Some angels are given proper names to denote the service they are empowered to perform. In that holy city, where perfect knowledge flows from the vision of almighty God, those who have no names may easily be known. But personal names are assigned to some, not because they could not be known without them, but rather to denote their ministry when they came among us. Thus, Michael means “Who is like God”; Gabriel is “The Strength of God”; and Raphael is “God’s Remedy.”

Whenever some act of wondrous power must be performed, Michael is sent, so that his action and his name may make it clear that no one can do what God does by his superior power. So also our ancient foe desired in his pride to be like God, saying: I will ascend into heaven; I will exalt my throne above the stars of heaven; I will be like the Most High. He will be allowed to remain in power until the end of the world when he will be destroyed in the final punishment. Then, he will fight with the archangel Michael, as we are told by John: A battle was fought with Michael the archangel.

So too Gabriel, who is called God’s strength, was sent to Mary. He came to announce the One who appeared as a humble man to quell the cosmic powers. Thus God’s strength announced the coming of the Lord of the heavenly powers, mighty in battle.

Raphael means, as I have said, God’s remedy, for when he touched Tobit’s eyes in order to cure him, he banished the darkness of his blindness. Thus, since he is to heal, he is rightly called God’s remedy.

God blessings,

Fr. Jeremy

~Church of St. Joseph~

Meetings and Activities

Oct 8	10:30am	Mass
Oct 9	7:00pm	CCW Meeting
Oct 11	8:00am	Mass
		Coffee after Mass
	6:30-7:30pm	Faith Formation Class
Oct 12	8:00am	Mass—St. Thomas
Oct 15	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	\$16,692.34	\$12,886.00
Student	\$250.00	\$67.34	\$351.00
Loose Plate	\$2,500.00	\$673.12	\$886.75

Last Week's Parish Revenue-St. Joseph

Adult Envelope	\$635.00
Student Envelope	\$5.00
Loose Plate	\$89.00
Maintenance	\$130.00
Candles	\$14.00
Total	\$873.00

There will be a **CCW meeting** on Monday, October 9, 2023 at 7:00pm in the church basement. All members are welcome to attend.

THANK YOU to St. Joseph's liturgy committee, Doreen Kronback, Pat Story, Sandy Wille and Marlene Schroepfer for the beautiful fall decorations in and outside of church! Thank them when you see them.

Please remember in your prayers **Jay Eyken**, son of Jim & Jeanne Eyken, who recently passed away. Graveside services will be held at a later date. We extend our prayers and sympathy to his family and friends. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord.



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

Michael & Carol Determan and

Mervyn & Mary Ann Embree

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
Brett Baumann	Marcie Anderson	"Pickle" Riley

October 15 Ministries

Lector	Tasha Frasher
EMC	Pat Story
Servers	Celia Vogel & Lou Vogel
Sacristan	Teresa Wenisch
Ushers	Jim Imker & Vern Hillesheim
Gift Bearers	Jeremiah Frasher Family
Money Counters	Fred Berg & Teresa Wenisch

Weekly Faith Formation Schedule

Wednesday, October 11

6:30-7:30 Faith Formation Classes

There will be coffee and rolls served after 8:00 Mass on Wednesday, October 11 to celebrate Father Jeremy's birthday.

CCW dues are now payable for this year. Please give your \$10.00 to Cathy Graff. You can put them in the regular collection in an envelope labelled CCW or put them in Cathy's mailbox. They can also be mailed to PO Box 234.

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.



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.

~Church of St. Raphael~

Contribution Budget July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024			
	Annual Budget	Budget to Date	Received to Date
Adults	\$335,000.00	\$90,192.34	\$61,713.00
Gr. 7-12	\$1,100.00	\$296.24	\$0.00
Pre K-6	\$1,100.00	\$296.24	\$0.00

Last week's Parish Revenue	
Adult Envelopes	\$3,836.00
Loose Plate	\$475.00
DUF	\$10.00
CCW Donation	\$35.00
School Gift	\$50.00
Playground Donation	\$40.00
Coffee Connection	\$15.00
Candles	\$29.00
Good Neighbor Thrift Store	\$714.13
Total Income	\$5,204.13

The 400 Club Winners this Week		
#54	Amy Vogel	\$65.00
#6	Nancy Vogel	\$65.00

~ Serving next Funeral will be Group C~

October 14 & 15, 2023		
	5:30pm	8:30am
Servers	VOLUNTEER	Austin Landkammer
	VOLUNTEER	Evelyn Landkammer
Lector	Laura Bast	VOLUNTEER
EMHC	Laura Bast	Dcn Barry Reindl
Accompanist	Kathleen Goedtke	Julie Prechel
Song Leader	Denise Reiner	Adult Choir
Rosary	Jane Irlbeck	Jackie Roiger
Head Usher	VOLUNTEER	Luke Roiger
	VOLUNTEER	Brooklyn Sturm
	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
Videographer	Brayden Sturm	




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 Lambertton 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.

~Good Neighbor Thrift ~
 Monday-Friday 9:30am-3:30pm
 Closed Saturdays
October 9-13
50% off Puzzles
 Now accepting Fall/Winter Clothing Donations

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.



The 400 Club ~ Please show your support for the 400 Club. Our loyal sellers are out and about selling tickets. **There are also tickets available in the Parish Office.** Please be supportive of this worthy fundraiser.

Today, Council of Catholic Women Recognition Sunday, we celebrate the women of our parish who provide leadership and activities for our parish through the Spirituality, Service, Leadership, Legislation, Reverence Life, Scholarship and Historian committees.

Ladies, THANK YOU for all you do for the Council of Catholic Women.

~Church of St. Raphael~

Meetings & Activities

Oct 8	8:30am	Mass
		Coffee Connection
Oct 10		NO Mass
	4:00-5:30pm	Atrium
Oct 11	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 7-12
Oct 12	6:30pm	Adult Faith Formation in Holy Family Room
Oct 13	6:30-7:30am	That Man is You
	8:30am	School Mass
Oct 14	5:30pm	Mass
Oct 15	8:30am	Mass
		Coffee Connection

2023 Fall Festival

Live Auction	\$19,395.00
Country Store	\$1,852.75
Silent Auction	\$6,784.02
Food Stand	\$1,282.82
Games/Bounce Houses	\$1,641.71
Beer/Root Beer Stand	\$1,060.00
Sweet Shoppe	\$1,194.00
Football Board	\$600.00
50/50 Cards	\$260.00
Raffle Drawing	\$9,394.00
Donations	\$1,368.00
2023 Fall Festival Profit	\$44,832.30

Please remember in your prayers:



✠ Our Shepherd of the Field:

Father Steven Verhelst

Please pray for our parishioners this week~

Sun: Jason & Kayla Lang Family

Mon: Ken & Gwen Lang

Tues: Kenny Lang

Wed: Lowell & Cheryl Lang

Thur: Mary Lou Lang

Fri: Mike Lang

Sat: Peter & Kori Lang

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

Check out Channel 8—Cablecast

*** St. Raphael Sunday Mass**

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

***The Future Depends of Love—Episode 2**

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



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

*Council of Catholic Women
Diocese of New Ulm*

PROCLAMATION

Inasmuch as this Year of our Lord, two thousand and twenty-three, marks the sixty-sixth anniversary of the Diocese of New Ulm, and

Inasmuch as the Council of Catholic Women has been a vital force in the Catholic life of the Diocese of New Ulm since the time of its formation, and furthermore,

Inasmuch as the Council of Catholic Women of the Diocese of New Ulm continues to encourage affiliates to work in our parishes to create a spirit of unity through prayer, enrichment, and service in fulfilling the three-fold mission of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, I am pleased to designate October 8, 2023, as Council of Catholic Women Recognition Sunday in the Diocese of New Ulm.



Chad W. Zielinski

Most Reverend Chad W. Zielinski
Bishop of New Ulm
September 18, 2023

~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!

Steeple Chase: Our 11th annual Steeple Chase walk was this past Friday and we had a wonderful afternoon! Thank you to everyone who participated, gave money toward student pledges, sponsored the event, donated prizes, purchased shirts, or helped in any way! We appreciate your support!

Upcoming School Masses:

October 13: Grade 6 leads

October 27: Grade 5 leads

End of the Quarter: It is the end of the first quarter on October 18th. Students will be dismissed at 12:30 that day. There is no school on Thursday October 19th or Friday October 20th for the Education Minnesota break.

Grandparents Day: We will be hosting Grandparents Day at school on Wednesday October 18th! We invite grandparents of our K-6th grade students to come and join us for a morning of fun activities that include a living rosary, BINGO, recess and lunch!

Mrs. Steffl away at Conference: I will be at CSCOE's (Catholic School Center of Excellence) Unconference in Brainerd, MN October 11-13th. This is a conference for Principals and Catholic School leaders. They have a variety of keynote speakers, breakout sessions, and time to visit one-on-one with specialists that can help me plan and strategize upcoming projects for our school. I am excited to attend and hope to bring back many useful thoughts and ideas for St. Raphael.

Upcoming Field Trips: Our 3-6th grade students will be attending the Children's Holy Field trip in New Ulm on October 11th. Students from other Catholic schools in the Diocese meet to pray the Rosary together. The K-3 grade classes will be going to Iverson's Tree Farm for a fall field trip on Tuesday October 17th! Our 4-6th grade students will be visiting the MSU Planetarium on October 24th to culminate their learning on earth and space in their classroom science lessons.

Blessings,

Mrs. Beth Steffl

School Office Hours

Monday-Friday 7:30am—3:30pm

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



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.

Parking-lot notice: Our school children are outside for recess each day Monday-Friday 10:30-11:00am. We are asking parishioners not to drive or park in the north parking lot during those times (we do not want any accidents to occur during the kids' play time). If you need to enter the church, please park on Van Dusen Street and use the south gathering space entrance.

Thank you.

~Youth & Adult Faith Formation ~

Wednesday, October 11 will be a service night for the teens. The Catechism of the Catholic Church 2427 says “Work honors the Creator’s gifts and the talents received from Him. It can also be redemptive.” CCC 2428 states “Work is for man, not man for work”. Service that we do for others is our opportunity to live out our love for God to one another. This change of heart from doing what is assigned for us to do to seeing the needs of others and being compelled to help is a work in progress for all of us.

All are invited to join the Study titled “Presence The Mystery of the Eucharist.” Choose which time works best for you;
Thursdays at 6:30pm (October 12, 19, 26, November 2, 9)
Tuesdays at 9:15am (October 17, 24, 31, November 7, 14)
This study is being offered through the Augustine Institute program, Formed.
Please contact Karen Reindl to register. My email is mrsreindl@straphaelpk-6.com

~Mrs. Karen Reindl

Weekly Faith Formation Schedule

Wednesday, October 11

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

Youth Choir Schedule

Wednesday, October 11

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



Join us on **Wednesday, October 11, 2023, at 8:15pm**
for Youth Group!

Everyone in grades 7-12 are invited to join us.

WANTED:



Piano Accompanist for the
Children’s Choir and
Praise and Worship Choir!



Accompanist needed for service rehearsals
Wednesday evenings and 2 services per month during the
months September—May.

5:00-6:00 Children’s Choir
6:00-7:00 Praise and Worship Choir

This is a paid position. Please contact Lori Kretsch for
more details: 507-276-5160

The confirmation retreat is set for Sunday, October 29
starting at 1pm for those in grades 9 and 10 and those
who have not attended a confirmation retreat before in
grade 11, an email was sent out last week.

Please eat lunch before coming, we will have snacks and
supper at the retreat. The retreat will end at 7:30pm
Please invite your sponsor or a parent to join us at 5:30pm
for Mass and supper.

Upcoming VIRTUS Training Sessions

✠A new VIRTUS Training Session has been added for
**Thursday, October 12, 2023, from 6:30-9:30 pm at St.
Peter’s School, Canby.**

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.



~Upcoming Area Events~

Upcoming Area Events....

St. Michael Catholic Church, Morgan, is hosting their annual Roast Beef Dinner on Sunday, October 8, 2023. This is a DRIVE THRU ONLY event. 10:30am-12:30pm. Cost is \$15.00.

St. Paul's Catholic Church, Comfrey, is hosting a Sausage Dinner Drive-Thru ONLY event on Sunday, October 22, 2023. 11:00am-1:30pm. Menu consists of Sausage, Sauerkraut, Real Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, and Green Beans. Cost is \$14.00. There will also be Mass with special music at 10:00am, 50/50 Drawing, General Raffle Drawing, and Country Store.



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).



If you or someone you know are interested in receiving Meals on Wheels, please contact Diane Johnson at 507-227-1056 to be placed on the list.

ADORATION AND PRAYER FOR HOPE AND HEALING

PRESIDED OVER BY BISHOP CHAD W. ZIBLINSKI

"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest."

*Are you struggling or hurting?
Come and lay your burden at the feet of Jesus
Share your trials with your brothers and sisters
Receive prayer for your physical, spiritual, and emotional needs
Let the Holy Spirit heal and renew you*

Sunday, October 22, 2023

3:00 pm

Holy Redeemer, Marshall, MN

Eucharistic Adoration with opportunities for healing prayer, Confession, spiritual counsel



St. Paul Lutheran Church

303 N Cass Ave, Springfield

GERMAN SUPPER



Wed, October 25, 2023

from 4:30 – 6:00 or Sold Out

DRIVE UP~TAKE OUT~DINE IN

Served HOT and ready to eat!

Sauerkraut with Pork and Dumplings, German Potato Salad, Brat, and Cookie

Advance Tickets \$14 per meal

At the Door Tickets \$15 per meal

Advance Tickets available at St. Paul Lutheran Church Office, Springfield Advance Press, or from a member of Church Council

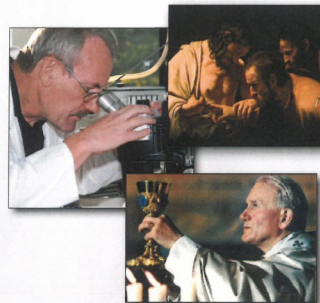
Delivery to shut-ins only. Call 723-5880 by October 24th.

DO YOU BELIEVE IN MIRACLES?

~ SEEING IS BELIEVING ~

ST. CATHERINE
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH
3:30 PM – 6:00 PM (WITH INTERMISSION)

ST. ANNE
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH
6:30 PM – 9:00 PM (WITH INTERMISSION)



Can miracles stand up to the test of science?

- Exclusive film footage of a stigmatist who bleeds from her hands, feet, and head. Are these the wounds of Christ? *What does science have to say?*
- A consecrated Communion Host becomes living *Flesh* and blood. Is it heart tissue? *What does science have to say?*
- A scientist (former atheist), an attorney and a famous TV Journalist witness statue of Jesus weeping real tears and shedding real blood. Are these claims true? *What does science have to say?*

St. Catherine and St. Anne are hosting an **EVENT** for everyone in the area. If you have an "I will believe it when I see it" attitude, don't miss this event!

"Put it this way-this is either the biggest hoax of the 20th Century, in which case it would have to be a fairly huge conspiracy, or the most important moment of the century, if not the whole millennium."

*Alastair Thompson
New Zealand journalist*

Sunday, November 12th
3:30 pm – 6:00 pm (with intermission)
St. Catherine
900 E. Flynn St.
Redwood Falls, MN, 56283

Monday, November 13th
6:30 pm – 9:00 pm (with intermission)
St. Anne
950 North St.
Wabasso, MN, 56283

For detailed itinerary go to
www.ScienceTestsFaith.com/MN

Same presentation each day - choose one