

Vine & Branches Area Faith Community

www.vineandbranchesafc.org

September 3, 2023 22nd 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 Sept 4		NO Mass 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Luke 4:16-30
Tues Sept 5	(Spfld)	8:30am Mass +Marge Roiger 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, 9-11; Luke 4:31-37
Wed Sept 6	(VVNH)	1:30pm Mass Colossians 1:1-8; Luke 4:38-44
Thur. Sept 7	(Sanb)	8:00am Mass Colossians 1:9-14; Luke 5:1-11
Fri. Sept 8	(Spfld)	8:30am Mass +Pat O'Meara <i>Micah 5:1-4a; Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23</i>
Sat. Sept 9	(Spfld)	5:30pm Mass +Curt Vogel Colossians 1:21-23; Luke 6:1-5
Sun. Sept 10 Note Time Change	(Lamb) (Spfld)	8:30am Mass +Kenneth & Esther Benedict 10:30am Mass –For the People Ezekiel 33:7-9; Romans 13:8-10; Matthew 18:15-20

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, 507-441-1049, 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 \$10.00Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday at 1:00pm

Church of St. Raphael & Area Office

20 W Van Dusen Street ~ 507-723-4137 Springfield MN 56087 Email: <u>straphael@newulmtel.net</u> **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 <u>stjoseph@centurylink.net</u> Prayer Chain– Sue Imker 507-829-1846

Pastor

Fr. Jeremy Kucera Phone: 507-828-5247 fatherjeremykucera@hotmail.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 MinistryKaren Reindlmrsreindl@straphaelpk-6.comSchool PrincipalBeth Steffl723-4136mrssteffl@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,

With the various activities that have been taking place lately I just want to take the time to thank everyone for their time and talent at the service of our parishes and Catholic school in our AFC.

Last weekend we took up a second collection for those suffering from the effects of the terrible fire in Hawaii. If you were not around this past weekend to contribute to the second collection, feel free to simply drop a marked envelope in the normal collection. Because the Diocesan Update does not come out until Thursday evenings and the bulletin needs to be done by Thursday morning, there will always be a communication lag with special collections asked for by our bishop. We will do the best we can to get information out to you in a timely manner.

The weekend of September 10th we will be taking up a second collection for the Catholic University of America. This is something we do in our diocese every year.

It's time for me to do a little selling/advertising...

I'm looking forward to spending time with you at St. Raphael's parish festival on September 10th. I'll be carrying around a colorful backpack as part of a fundraiser for the live auction that day. You'll be able to stuff all sorts of cash, gifts, gold, silver, and jewels in it as part of the festivities. This is new to me, and the pack is colorful to get your attention I suppose. It's probably better that I did not pick out the color otherwise it may have been hunting camouflage and no one would have seen it and put anything in it. I wonder how much it will be worth when the bidding on it starts.

An Italian meal is being auctioned off at the parish festival and I have agreed to cook it at the rectory for a party of eight. The menu has not been set and can be negotiated to a degree with whoever wins the bid. If you are nervous about my cooking skills that is understandable. How would you know if I can cook or not? All I can say is that I have taken two cooking classes in Rome and have lead more pilgrimages with teens and adults to that country than I can remember. You could say that much experience could qualify someone as a pasta snob. It is up to you if you want to take the chance to bid on such a culinary experience to help support St. Raphael's parish. A sample menu:

Antipasto – a charcuterie board of fine Italian meats and cheeses imported from Italy with salami from Norcia, prosciutto from Parma and San Danielle, olives from Tuscany, cheeses from Parma, Assisi and Rome.

Primo – Spaghetti alla Bolognese, Heart attack pasta or some other type of pasta. Today I saw some fresh made Italian sausage in our grocery store in town and decided to try experimenting with it and made a new sauce that has San Marzano tomatoes, fresh garlic, crushed red pepper etc.... It's marinating in the refrigerator right now and hopefully it leads to something delicious soon. Maybe it will be a steppingstone for a vodka sauce. We'll see.

Secondo – depends on the time of year. This is a meat and vegetable dish. Some nice grilled meat with a morel mushroom cream sauce and asparagus?

Dolce – see the inserted photo



God bless you all,

Fr. Jeremy

~Church of St. Joseph~

Meetings and Activities

Sept 3	10:30 am	Mass
Sept 6	1:30pm	Mass—Valley View Manner
Sept 7	8:00am	Mass—St. Thomas
Sept 10	10:30am	Mass

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

Leon Benedict and Mark & Jan Benedict **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

St. Joseph Contribution Budget July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024					
Annual Budget Budget to Date Received to Date					
Adults	62,000.00	\$10,730.79	\$6,910.00		
Student	\$250.00	\$43.29	\$25.00		
Loose Plate	\$2,500.00	\$432.72	\$555.00		

Last Week's Parish Revenue-St. Joseph		
Adult Envelope	\$625.00	
Student Envelope	\$0.00	
Loose Plate	\$64.00	
Votive Candles	\$5.00	
Hawaii Special Collection \$203.		
Total \$897.0		

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.

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.

September 10 Ministries

Lector	Emily Scheffler
EMC	Pat Story
Servers	Maia Scheffler & Hadynn Jenniges
Sacristan	Diane Arnsdorf
Ushers	Doug Decock & Jim Imker
Gift Bearers	Vogel Family
Money Counters	Pat Story & Doreen Kronback

Faith Formation registration for Grades 1-11 is now open. Pick up a form in the entry way and return to Emily Scheffler or Kiki Hubert along with payment by Weds. September 13. Youth grades 7-11 will clean ditches on Wed, Sept. 13 starting at 6:15. All classes will begin the following Wednesday, Sept. 20 from 6:30-7:30. Questions can be directed to Emily (828-2701) or Kiki (227-5632).



~Church of St. Raphael~

Contribution Budget July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024			
	Annual Budget	Budget to Date	Received to Date
Adults	\$335,000.00	\$57,980.79	\$36,296.00
Gr. 7-12	\$1,100.00	\$190.44	\$0.00
Pre K-6	\$1,100.00	\$190.44	\$0.00

Last week's Parish Revenue

\$280.00
\$130.00
\$50.00
\$500.00
\$486.50
\$153.10
\$2,683.00



<u>The 400 Club</u> ~ 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.

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 Knights of Columbus have 2 tables for the Hero For Life Banquet on September 21, 2023, 5:30-8:30pm, at the Sleepy Eye Event Center. Please contact Nick Dauer at 507-822-6251 or Duane Feser at 651-331-9945 to reserve your seat at the table for no charge.

The 400 Club Winners this Week

#337	LaVonne Hauth	\$65.00
\$305	Pat & Amy Vogel	\$65.00

~ Serving next Funeral will be Group I~

September 9 & 10, 2023

	5:30p	om	10:30am
Servers	VO	LUNTEER	Oliver Ludewig
	VO	LUNTEER	TJ Reindl
Lector	Laura	Bast	VOLUNTEER
ЕМНС	Laura	Bast	Dcn Barry Reindl
Accompanist	Sharon Pieschel		Julie Prechel
Song Leader	Adult Ensemble		Adult Choir
Rosary	Jane Irlbeck		VOLUNTEER
Head Usher	Dean V	Walter	Arland Roiger
Jaden Walter Alexis Walter		Walter	Cher Roiger
		Walter	Duane Roiger
	VO	LUNTEER	Mike Rothmeier
Videographer		Christina R	eindl

~Good Neighbor Thrift ~

Monday9:00am-12:00pm Tuesday-Friday 9:00-5:00pm Saturday 9:00am-12:00pm September 5-9

25% off Women's Sweaters & Vests

Closed Monday, September 4th for Labor Day. Now accepting donations

Fall Festival Parking

The north parking lot of the church and school will be unavailable on Sunday, September 11 due to the Fall Festival activities. Please park on the side streets or on the south side of the church.

Thank you

There will be a **CCW meeting** on Thursday, September 14, 2023 at 6:30pm in the Gathering Space. All members are welcome to attend.

~Church of St. Raphael~

Meetings & Activities			Please remember in your prayers:	
Sept 3	8:30am	Mass	✤ Our Shepherd of the Field:	
Sept 4		Parish Office Closed—Labor Day	Father Jeremy Kucera Please pray for our parishioners this week~	
		No School—Labor Day	Sun: James & Stephanie Jensen Family Mon: Riley & Brianna Jensen Family	
Sept 5	8:30am	Mass	Tues: Terry & Sarah Jensen Family Wed: Dana & Tammy Johnson Family	
Sept 6	6:00-7:00pm	Faith Formation grades 2-6	Thur: Scott & Lyn Johnson Fri: Todd Johnson Family	
	7:15-8:15pm	Faith Formation grades 7-10	Sat: Willard & Carla Johnson Weekly Candle Intentions (\$5.00 offering)	
	7:30pm	Junior/Senior Student/Parent Mtg in school gymnasium	Special Intentions Special Intentions DGF	
Sept 8	6:30-7:30am	That Man is You	 Small Votive Candles are now \$1.00 each Large Intention Candles are now \$5.00 each 	
	8:30am	School Mass		
Sept 9	5:30pm	Mass	Check out Channel 8–Cablecast	
Sept 10	10:30am	Mass—Fall Festival	* St. Raphael Sunday Mass Every Tuesday at 5:00 pm & Friday at 5:00 pm	
	10:00am- 4:00pm	Fall Festival	*Real Life Catholic—Episode 7 Every Tuesday at 11:00am & Thursday at 7:00pm	
·	2023 Fall F	Sestival Cash Donations	We are beginning to collect donations for the Silent	
If you would like to donate to this years Fall Festival in the form of cash, please fill out this form and submit it with your donation and you will receive credit on your			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	

with your donation and you will receive credit on your 2023 Tax Contribution Statement.

Name

Amount \$





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.

Greetings!

Great Start: This week was only our second week of school, and things are already running smoothly! The teachers and staff have been establishing important routines and procedures. Classroom teachers have been administering diagnostic testing for grouping and to see what their student's educational needs are. We will be meeting as a staff several times a month after school for our staff meetings. These meetings ensure that the staff communicates important information, routines, and policies. This year our focus will be on developing several areas of the curriculum such as math and social studies.

New Breakfast Program: With the new Minnesota legislation, all students get free lunch and breakfast. Our food Manager Erin Meine has done an amazing job getting our new breakfast program up and running. When students arrive at school, they immediately go down to the cafeteria for breakfast! Students are already in a good routine of coming downstairs for breakfast and everything is running very smoothly.

Daycare Update: We are in the final stages of obtaining licensure and Katie has begun the process of registering families! Our opening date is September 11th. We are so thrilled to finally see this project to completion and begin serving families in this way. Thanks so much to Katie Pierson who has done so much work to get our daycare up and running. She has done a phenomenal job! We plan to host an Open House this fall so that donors and parishioners can see the hard work we've put into the project.

Steeple Chase--Change in Date: Our schools' annual 5K fun run/walk, the Steeple Chase, is moving from the weekend of the Fall Festival to Friday October 6th! It will work differently this year by having the event during the school day to get all of our students involved. Right now, t-shirts are being designed for our 11th annual Steeple Chase. Businesses will be once again asked to sponsor this event and the names of their businesses will go on the backs of the shirts if they have a \$50+ donation. Students will be asked to get pledges for the walk/run as well. The walk/run will be open to school families, parishioners, and members of the community. We invite everyone to join us! We will have more information on the time and how to register very soon!

Join us for our upcoming school Masses: The students or staff lead our Friday 8:30AM Masses during the school year, join us!

Friday September 8- grade 5 Friday September 15- grade 4 Friday September 22- grade 3 Friday September 29- grade 2

Blessings,

Mrs. Beth Steffl

Parking-lot notice: Our school children are outside for recess each day Monday-Friday 7:45-8:00am and again 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.

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, September 1, 2023 and Monday, September 4, 2023. Our first night of faith formation classes will be **Wednesday**, **September 6**. Grades 2-6 will meet from 6-7pm and grades 7-10 will meet from 7:15-8:15pm.

First graders will have their first class night from 6-7pm starting Wednesday, October 4.

If you are a parent of a **kindergartener**, please contact me so that I can get a home packet for you to do with your child. My email is <u>mrsreindl@straphaelpk-6.com</u>

Junior and Senior class teens and their parents will be meeting on Wednesday, September 6 at 7:30pm in the auditorium/gym.

Thank you to those who were so quick to sign up for helping with the parish fall festival on Sunday, September 10. If you have not contacted me yet, please check your email for the updated signup sheet that was emailed out this week.

~Mrs. Karen Reindl

Weekly Faith Formation Schedule

Wednesday, September 6

6:00-7:00pm Faith Formation classes grades 2-6 7:15-8:15pm Faith Formation classes grades 7-10

Upcoming VIRTUS Training Sessions

✤A new VIRTUS Training Session has been added for Wednesday, September 13, 2023, from 6:00-9:00 pm at St. Anne School, Wabasso.

✤A new VIRTUS Training Session has been added for Monday, October 2, 2023, from 6:00-9:00 pm at Church of St. Mary, Willmar.

You can register online through the diocesan website <u>www.dnu.org/safeenvironment</u> by clicking on the large red button in the left margin of the main Safe Environment web page.



Enkindle, Rekindle, and Deepen a Living Relationship with Jesus in the Eucharist

The U.S. Catholic Bishops Secretariat of Evangelization and Catechesis has launched a *Heart of the Revival* weekly email newsletter for ongoing inspiration and information as we journey forward toward the 2024 National Eucharistic Congress.

CATHOLICS OF ALL AGES ENCOURAGED TO SIGN-UP!

It's the simplest way to stay connected to what the National Eucharistic Revival is all about.

Visit the Diocese of New Ulm website, dnu.org to sign-up for the newsletter, learn of various upcoming Eucharistic Revival events, and more.



Children's Choir and Praise & Worship Choir will be starting Wednesday, September 20. Please mark your calendars and watch the bulletin the next few weeks for more information!

WANTED:



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



Join us, share your musical talents, with these wonderful and gifted young people God has blessed St. Raphael's with!!

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

We sing Contemporary Christian and Sacred music.

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



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

507-233-5318 (local).

~Upcoming Area Events~

St. Raphael Catholic Church Fall Festival LIVE AUCTION ITEM! Father's Backpack

We need your help filling Father's Backpack with some fun items!

After Mass simply drop cash donations, gift cards to restaurants, department stores, grocery stores, fun beer, whiskey, wine, tickets to sporting events or concerts, jewelry, or anything you would love to take home from Fall Festival in Fr. Jeremy's Backpack! The possibilities are endless, so let your imagination wander.

At Fall Festival, you will be able to bid on the items to take home, **BUT** you won't know what was donated until the winning bid is placed! All items donated for the backpack will be placed in a Treasure Chest. We will tell you what the items are totaled before the bidding begins. Let's have some fun and fill Father's Backpack with many treasures for you to take home!

P.S. Fr. Jeremy will also be walking around with his backpack at Fall Festival leading up to the start of the live auction, so don't be surprised if he asks you for a donation at Fall Festival!

Items can also be dropped off at the parish office leading up to Fall Festival. Items do not have to fit perfectly in the backpack. Hopefully the backpack is overflowing with wonderful treasures!

Councíl of Catholic Women - Deanery 1 Fall Gathering Tuesday, September 19, 2023 St. Raphael Catholic Church 20 W Van Dusen St., Springfield







Sign-up Today! Registration: \$10.00 Please register with your parish CCW President by Sunday,September 10. Parish Presidents: Please call Sharon Illikman at 354-3145 by Monday, September 11, with the number of women coming from your parish.



YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US September 21, 2023 5:30-8:30

Sleepy Eye Event Center 110 12th Ave. NE, Sleepy Eye



RSVP VIA; CALL (507)-359-980 SCAN QR CODE



Keynote Speaker

We are looking forward to welcoming, Vaunae Hansel, the Executive Director of Elevate Life, as our keynote speaker. Her passion is to equip Pregnancy Resource Centers like ours who serve women who find themselves in unexpected pregnancy. Vaunae has experienced the devastation of her personal abortion story and found healing, forgiveness and peace through Christ and an Abortion Healing Ministry. We hope you will join us to hear her story and learn more about the mission and work of First Choice Pregnancy Services

O TO WWW.CONSIDERYOUROPTIONS.ORG (DONATE/EVENTS TAB

Catholic United Financial Matching Grant

Pillow Cleaning By Carlson's Fluff & Puff Pillow Cleaning Service

> Thursday, September 28th 6-8 pm Friday, September 29th 7:30 am-3 pm St Raphael Church Gathering Space Springfield, MN



New Ticking of your Choice On the Spot Cleaning Returned Same Day

Proceeds benefits St. Raphael Religious Education

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.



