



Vine & Branches Area Faith Community

www.vineandbranchesafc.org

May 12, 2024
7th Sunday of Easter

*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 May 13	No Mass <i>Acts of the Apostles 19:1-8; John 16:29-33</i>
Tues May 14	(Spfld) 8:30 Mass +Dale Hacker <i>Acts of the Apostles 1:15-17, 20-26; John 15:9-17</i>
Wed May 15	(Lamb) 8:00 Mass +John & Arlene Wendolek <i>Acts of the Apostles 20:28-38; Gospel: John 17:11b-19</i>
Thur. May 16	(Sanb) 8:00am Mass +Jerome Fromm <i>Acts of the Apostles 22:30; 23:6-11; Gospel: John 17:20-26</i>
Fri. May 17	(Spfld) 8:30am Mass +Gloria Platz <i>Acts of the Apostles 25:13b-21; John 21: 20-25</i>
Sat. May 18	(Spfld) 5:30pm Mass +Edward & Veronica Groebner <i>Acts of the Apostles 28:16-20, 30-31; John 21:22-25</i>
Sun. May 19	(Spfld) 8:30am Mass –For the People (Lamb) 10:30am Mass +Thomas Jenniges <i>Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11, 1 Corinthians 12:3b -7, 12-13; John 20:19-23</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: 507-276-8553

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,

Thank you to everyone at St. Raphael's school that worked so hard to put on quite the show on Wednesday. It was nice to see a full gym of friends and family enjoying the production as the kids sang and danced their hearts out. A special prayer for all of our 6th graders as they concluded their last performance.

If anyone is looking for the old St. Joseph's statue in the confessional in Lambertton and can't find it, don't be alarmed. It is in very bad shape, and I have a friend that has offered to paint it for us for nothing. She has painted many statues for priests in our diocese and does a very good job. If I have enough room in this article, I will include a photo so everyone can see how bad it is right now.

This past Tuesday and Wednesday the priests and deacons of our diocese met with Bishop Zielinski for our biannual clergy days. The presenter this year was Bishop Joseph Williams from the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. He was received well by all. The core of his presentation was on the importance of self-love. At first glance that may sound weird, but once he laid the foundation for his talks it was very good. He began by explaining an experience that he had as a young priest that really startled him. (In the seminary we always knew Joseph was very smart and very motivated to pour himself out for God's people and give of himself until he could give no more.) Well, one day as he was preparing to celebrate his last mass for the weekend, he kind of blew up in his car when something didn't go right, and he found himself saying things in anger that startled him. He began to take a hard look at that meltdown.

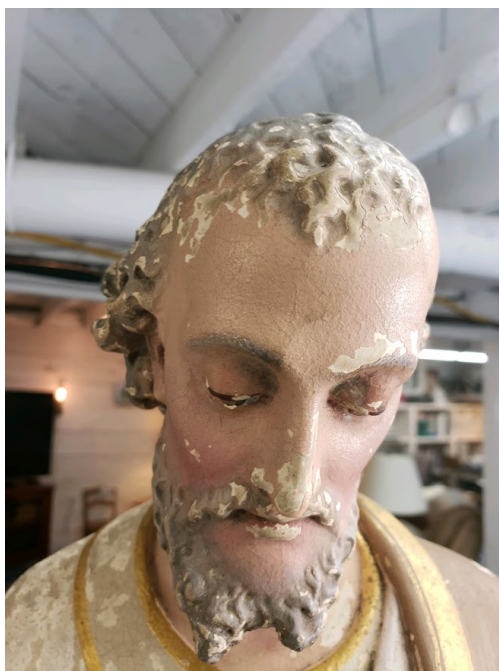
Fast forward a little and he found what was at the root of the problem. He was neglecting himself. He wasn't tending to himself and his own needs in his humanity and he cracked in that car ride. This began a discovery of seeing that you can't just simply pray and work without any "play". He then shared with us his current "rule of life" that he lives by to this day. There are also the other human needs he found were more important than he realized such as time for friendships, recreation and even shopping for normal "stuff". Tending to these details and sticking to a daily routine as best he can have made such a huge difference in his life and he encouraged the clergy of our diocese to do the same, especially by following the examples of some of the spiritual giants of our faith.

It is not selfish, but an act of service to tend to one's humanity. I could see where there are areas in my own life that could use more tweaking and balance as well after I listened to him. This year I have noticed that I have not been getting the normal type of exercise that I need, and my "bulk" is clear evidence of that. Proper work, proper prayer, proper play and so on should not be overlooked. And if we are overlooking one aspect or another, look out for that eventual meltdown/breakdown that probably catches up with everyone. Prayer, work and play.

How about you guys? How are you doing in these areas? If you are looking for some reading material on the matter, he recommended the following book, "The Root of Friendship: Self-Love & Self Governance in Aquinas".

God's blessings,

Fr. Jeremy



~Church of St. Joseph~

Meetings and Activities

May 12	10:30am	Mass
May 15	8:00am	Mass
May 16	8:00am	Mass—St. Thomas
May 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	\$54,846.26	\$64,517.85
Student	\$250.00	221.26	\$310.00
Loose Plate	\$2,500.00	\$2,211.68	\$3,029.65

Last Week's Parish Revenue-St. Joseph	
Adult Envelopes	\$1,360.00
Student Envelope	\$36.00
Loose Plate	\$77.00
Votive Lights	\$3.00
Easter	\$40.00
Total	\$1,516.00

This week we remember *these people in our prayers.*
Delores Schwanke and Brad & Mary Senst

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
Shane Blair

May 19 Ministries

Lector Benda Derickson
EMC Jeff Strock
Servers Otto Hubert & Adeline Wenisch
Sacristan Diane Arnsdorf
Ushers Gordy Wille & Mike Hubert
Gift Bearers Mike Hubert Family
Money Counters Doreen Kronback & Katy Wille

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.



St. Joseph's Cemetery Board met Tuesday, April 16. Burial lot rate increases were discussed. One lot holds 1 casket and 1 remains or 2 remains.

The new rates, effective immediately, will be:

St. Joseph's parishioners: 1 lot—\$400.00

Non Parishioners: 1 lot—\$600.00

If you are interested in purchasing, please contact: Sue Imker—507-829-1846

CCW will be hosting a Mother's Day supper at 6:30pm in the church hall prior to our May 13th meeting. Please watch for a note in your mailbox and plan on coming. We will be having you RSVP for supper service numbers. Remember, all women of St. Joseph's are members to the Council of Catholic Women.

Carlson Pillow Cleaning Service

Sponsored by the Lamberton American Legion Auxiliary

Where: Lamberton Legion

Time: Drop Off Tuesday, May 21 5:00-7:00pm

Cleaning: Wednesday, May 22 8:00am-4:00pm



Please join us in the Baby Bottle Fundraiser

for Choice's Pregnancy Center of Redwood Falls. Take a bottle and fill it with change, cash or a check, and then return it to the

church on or before Father's Day. Any questions can be directed to Emily Scheffler, Reverence Life Chair. Your contribution will bring hope to many lives!

~Church of St. Raphael~


Contribution Budget July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024			
	Annual Budget	Budget to Date	Received to Date
Adults	\$335,000.00	\$296,346.26	\$283,188.03
Gr. 7-12	\$1,100.00	\$973.36	\$30.00
Pre K-6	\$1,100.00	\$973.36	\$115.13

The 400 Club Winners this Week		
#333	Dave Vogel	\$65.00
#172	Roger & Janice Meine	\$65.00

~ Serving next Funeral will be Group E ~

May 18 & 19, 2024		
	5:30pm	8:30am
Servers	VOLUNTEER	Austin Landkammer
	VOLUNTEER	Evelyn Landkammer
Lector	Laura Bast	Jim Miesen
EMHC	Laura Bast	Jim Miesen
Accompanist	Sharon Pieschel	Adult Choir
Song Leader	TBA	Adult Choir
Rosary	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
Head Usher	VOLUNTEER	Mike Reiner
	VOLUNTEER	Mike Rothmeier
	VOLUNTEER	Steve Meine
	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
Videographer	Christina Reindl	


Last week's Parish Revenue	
Adult Envelopes	\$2,591.00
Loose Plate	\$310.00
Ascension	\$65.00
Catholic Campaign	\$5.00
School Teacher Support	\$50.00
Adopt a Student	\$50.00
Red Heart Envelope	\$10.00
Good Neighbor Thrift Store	\$384.57
Total Income	\$3,465.57



Congratulations to Reed Darwin Krueger, son of David & Lacy Krueger, as he recently received the Sacrament of Baptism and was welcomed into the Holy Catholic Church and the St. Raphael Parish. Community!


There will be a **CCW meeting** on Thursday, May 16, 2022 at 6:30pm in the gathering space.

Reminder: The hand pump on the east side of the cemetery is working.




Prayer Before the Blessed Sacrament

Every 1st and 3rd Friday we have Adoration Prayer in church from 9:30am-4:00pm. We are in need of more people to take an hour here or there or sub when someone can't make it. Call Amy Schmitz 507-920-9804 to give your name and number and talk about when you wish to offer your Prayers for Adoration.



St. Raphael 150th Anniversary Donation

If you who would like to make a monetary donation towards our 150th Anniversary, please complete the form below and return it and your donation in the collection basket.



Name _____

Address _____

Amount _____

You will receive credit on your 2024 tax contribution statement for your donation.

~Church of St. Raphael~

Meetings & Activities

May 12	8:30am	Mass
	4:30pm	Book Study: The Jewish Roots of Mary chapter 6
May 14	8:30am	6th Grade Graduation Mass
May 16	1:10pm	Last Day of School—Early Dismissal
	6:30pm	CCW Meeting
May 17	6:30-7:30am	That Man is You
	8:30am	Mass
May 18	5:30pm	Mass
May 19	8:30am	Mass
		Rolls sold after Mass
	4:30pm	Book Study: The Jewish Roots of Mary chapter 7

Please remember in your prayers:

✠ Our Shepherd of the Field:

Father Steven Verhelst

Please pray for our parishioners this week~

Sun: Bernice Trebesch

Mon: Darlene Turbes

Tues: Dorothy Turbes

Wed: Richard & Cheri Turbes

Thur: Wayne Turbes

Fri: Rhonda Utz

Sat: Roger & LeAnne Vaske

Weekly Candle Intentions (\$5.00 offering)

Special Intentions 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

***Battle Ready—Episode 2**

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



Spring Cemetery Clean-up will be held on Wednesday, May 22, 2024, at 5:00pm. Lunch will be provided afterwards.

~The Cemetery Committee

To view the Mass videos online, visit our YouTube channel and subscribe.



<https://www.youtube.com> and search for St. Raphael Catholic Church. You will see a picture of our church.



You are cordially invited to

ST. RAPHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH
SPRINGFIELD, MINNESOTA

150th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, June 22, 2024

Mass 4:00 p.m. • Celebrant Bishop Chad Zielinski

Complimentary Meal to Follow

Brief Program around 6:30 p.m. | Music to follow

Please RSVP by June 1, 2024

507-723-4137 or staphael@newulmtel.net

~Good Neighbor Thrift ~

May 13-17

50% off Kids Room: clothing, toys and crafts

Congratulations to Anne Wenisch for winning the Hanging Plant!

Monday 9:00-3:00; Tuesday-Friday 9:30-4:00;

Saturday 9:00-12:00

Questions about donations—call 723-5778

Raffle Tickets for the 150th Anniversary Quilt will be on sale after **most** weekend Masses starting April 27th. You may also purchase them at the Parish Office. They are \$10.00 each. They will also be available to purchase at our Celebration on June 22, 2024. The Quilt is hanging in the Gathering Space. Thank you, The 150th Committee.

~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: We had a fantastic turnout for our spring program this past Wednesday! Thank you to everyone who came to support the students, staff, and school! We truly appreciate it!

Congratulations: Congratulations to our kindergarten students- Graham Halter, Marshall Hillesheim, Carlee Meine, Lila Peichel, Vincent Peichel, Adeline Pierson, Alaina Pietig, and Hap Pietig who led our school Mass for the first time and celebrated their kindergarten graduation on Friday! We are so proud of all of you and everything you have accomplished this school year!

Save the Date: Our largest fundraiser of the school year is coming up on Friday May 31, 2024 from 5 PM- Midnight. This year marks our fourth annual "A Night in Havana" event. It is an adults only night out with many fun ways to entertain yourself for the evening! The event is free to attend and open to the public. It takes place in the parking lot of the church and school. This year, we will have a food truck that is available to purchase your meal, you can purchase drinks at our own Havana bar, bid on the silent and live auction items, purchase raffle tickets, and enjoy free live music by local bands Chris and Chris and The Blue Ringers. Come and join us for this fun fundraising event! All proceeds benefit St. Raphael Catholic School. The committee began sending out sponsor letters in March and has been following up with them. **To date, we have received \$33,925 in sponsorships (these sponsorships come from our beloved local businesses as well as many out of town businesses) and \$20,140 in raffle ticket sales! (Many of these are tickets sold by our school families as well as purchased by our alumni all over the country!) This is a total of \$54,065 so far that has been raised for the school! I will continue to update everyone on our totals! Our goal for the fundraiser is \$130,000 to be put toward the school. This will go toward our general budget, school endowment, and specific needs of the school!**

K-6 Elementary School-Now Enrolling: We are now enrolling students going into K-6th grade for the 2024-2025 school year. We offer a comprehensive faith-based education which includes daily prayer, weekly Mass, formal religion classes, language arts, math, science, social studies, technology, physical education, music, and art. Call the school office for a tour or to get more information 507-723-4135.

Preschool-Now Enrolling: *Although we will have a different teacher, we plan to keep doing what we do best at St. Raphael Catholic School--bringing students to a deeper relationship with Jesus while providing them with excellent education!!! I am confident we will find an excellent candidate and continue the legacy of an awesome preschool program at St. Raphael.* Registration is now open for the Little Panthers Preschool program (3 year olds) and our Kindergarten Readiness program (4 year olds). Our Little Panthers program meets on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8-11 AM and our Kindergarten Readiness program meets on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8-11 AM. The cost is \$13.50 per day for each of our preschool programs. Students who are eligible for our program must be 3 years old before September 1, 2024 (Little Panthers) and 4 years old by September 1, 2024 (Kindergarten Readiness.) Students must also be potty trained and be able to use the bathroom independently. To register for the 2024-2025 school year, stop in to the school office to get a registration form and return it with your \$25 registration fee. You can also call the school office and we would be happy to mail a registration form out to you!

Now Hiring a Preschool Teacher: We are looking for an awesome preschool teacher! Ideal candidates would have education in teaching and/or child development along with experience working with young children. Preferred candidates would have a passion for passing on the faith, love children, and be a great communicator. Working hours are 7:45 am-11:15 am Monday-Friday during the school year. Interested candidates can send a cover letter, personal resume', and two letters of recommendation to Mrs. Steffl at principal@straphaelpk-6.com.

Now Hiring a 6th Grade Teacher: We are looking for a fantastic 6th grade teacher! Ideal candidates would have an education in teaching and have a Minnesota teaching license or be eligible for one. Preferred candidates would have a passion for passing on the faith, love children, be a great communicator, and a team player. This is a full time+ position during the school year. Interested candidates can send a cover letter, personal resume', and two letters of recommendation to Mrs. Steffl at principal@straphaelpk-6.com.

Godly Virtues: In April, we will be focusing on **diligence** which is doing your best and working hard until you are finished. 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.

Upcoming School Masses:

Friday May 10--Kindergarten leads (Kindergarten Graduation)

Tuesday May 14--6th grade leads (6th Grade Graduation)

Upcoming Dates:

May 24: The Loft Nutrition fundraiser (proceeds go to the playground project)

May 31: A Night in Havana Fundraiser 5 PM-Midnight

Blessings


Mrs. Beth Steffl

~Youth & Adult Faith Formation ~

Happy Mother's day! Please pray for all mothers, and fathers too! Parents are the first and primary teachers of the Catholic faith. Parents teach their children by their example. Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches (paragraph 2223) "Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children. They bear witness to this responsibility first by creating a home where tenderness, forgiveness, respect, fidelity and disinterested service are the rule." Marriage and the family are the central social institutions that must be supported. Thank you to all of the families that entrust their children to the school and faith formation programs.

We also celebrate the Ascension of Jesus this weekend, which was actually May 9th. Ascension is the celebration of Jesus' victory over death and His salvation for all who believe in Him! Ascension marks the end of the Easter season – 40 days after the resurrection! Next Sunday is Pentecost, 50 days after the resurrection, which commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and followers of Jesus. Pentecost is often called the "Birthday of the Church" and is seen as the first Confirmation.



~Mrs. Karen Reindl




CAMP BELOVED 2024

GIRLS' CAMP!

July 20-22 (Grades 6-8)	July 23-26 (Grades 9-12)	Schoenstatt Sleepy Eye, MN
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Wednesday, September 18, 2024 will be the first night of 2024/2025 Faith formation classes.



CAMP GREATNESS 2024

BOYS' CAMP!

7/27-29 (Grades 6-8)	7/30-8/2 (Grades 9-12)	Schoenstatt Sleepy Eye, MN
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Summer Fun
is coming to our parish
for grades 1-6 & grades 7-12!

Games!
Skits!
Sacraments!

Totus Tuus is a summer youth program which features 4 missionaries who host a fun daytime program for grades 1-6 and a youth group for grades 7-12 in the evening

Totus Tuus

Details

Grades 1-6
July 15-18 from 9am-2pm daily

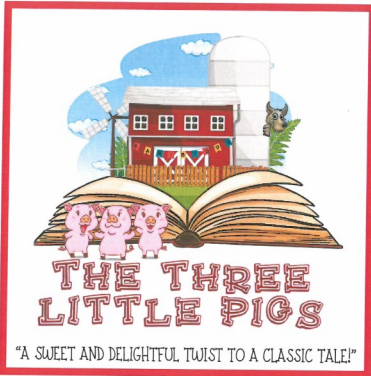
Grades 7-12
July 14-18 from 7:30-9:30pm daily

at St. Raphael Catholic Church basement

\$5/person to those who register before July 1. Registration forms are available on the Faith Formation table or contact Karen Reindl at straphaelpk-6.com

Diocese of New Ulm

THEATRE AUDITIONS



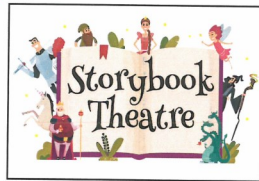
STUDENTS IN
1ST - 12TH GRADE
ARE WELCOME
TO AUDITION!

PRACTICES
1:00-5:15PM
EACH DAY

PERFORMANCES
JUNE 7 @ 7:00 PM
JUNE 8 @ 2:00 PM

MONDAY, JUNE 3
@ 1:00PM

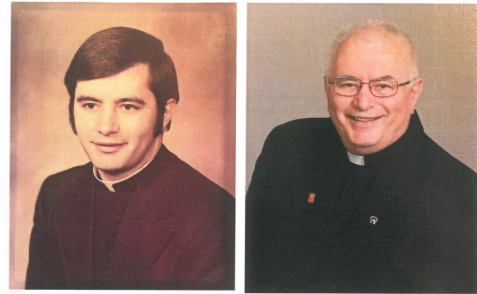
SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL AUDITORIUM



STORYBOOK THEATRE IS A PROFESSIONAL TOURING THEATRE COMPANY SERVING THE TWIN CITIES METRO AREA IN MINNESOTA, BRINGING EXTRAORDINARY THEATRICAL EXPERIENCES THAT EDUCATE, CHALLENGE, AND INSPIRE YOUNG ARTISTS THROUGH SUMMER AND SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAMS. THE RESIDENCY IN SPRINGFIELD IS MADE POSSIBLE BY SPRINGFIELD COMMUNITY THEATRE WITH HELP FROM SPRINGFIELD AMERICAN LEGION, PIESCHEL FAMILY FOUNDATION AND SPRINGFIELD AREA FOUNDATION.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT KATIE MUELLER AT KTMUELLER@ICLOUD.COM

Join Fr. Denny Labat to celebrate his 50th anniversary of ordination as a priest!



Where: Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, 503 W. Lyon St., Marshall, MN

When: Sunday, May 26, 2024

Mass at 2:30PM (priests welcome to concelebrate)

Open house reception will follow in Carlin Hall (church basement) 3:30 to 6:00pm

Upcoming VIRTUS Training Sessions

✝ A new VIRTUS Training Session has been added for **Wednesday, May 29, 2024, from 6:00-9:00pm at Church of St. Mary, Arlington.**

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.

PROMISE TO PROTECT
PLEDGE TO HEAL



ST. JOHN'S
CIRCLE OF CARE
A TRADITION... FOR ALL AGES

Join us **FOR LUNCH!**
AND SUPPER!!!



\$7.00
FOR A MEAL

MEAL CONSISTS OF: BBQ PORK RIBLET SANDWICH, A BAG OF CHIPS, PICKLE, COOKIE, AND A POP/WATER

WEDNESDAY
MAY 15TH

11:30AM - 1:00PM
AND 5:00PM - 6:30PM

15 NORTH MARSHALL AVE.

ST. JOHN'S STAFF
WILL BE SERVING MEALS
IN THE PARKING LOT

OF FUNCTIONAL FITNESS

FIND ALL CURRENT JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT: WWW.SJLHOME.COM/EMPLOYMENT 507.723.3200

You're Invited

"A NIGHT IN HAVANA" FUNDRAISER

ST. RAPHAEL CATHOLIC SCHOOL
Friday May 31st, 2024

5PM - MIDNIGHT
21+ ONLY
FREE ENTRY

LINGEN DAIRY FOOD TRUCK
SERVING CAJUN CUISINE
5PM - 8PM
RAFFLES - LIVE MUSIC - GAMES
LIVE & SILENT AUCTION - HAVANA BAR