



The Parish Press

Newsletter of Saint Raphael Parish Family
Milford, Connecticut

September 2019



Celebrate Saint Raphael!

Triduum Begins on Friday, September 27

The Feast of the Archangels, Raphael, Michael and Gabriel, falls on Sunday, September 29. As a way to celebrate our patron we will honor Saint Raphael with a triduum, three days of prayer that precede his feast.

The triduum will begin with Mass on Friday, July 27 (see schedule at right). The weekend liturgies will include a Litany of Saint Raphael and special prayers seeking his intercession.

Perhaps you would like to offer a novena, nine days of prayer to this *great prince of the heavenly court* for an intention that is close to your heart. Use the prayer printed on Saint Raphael prayer cards, available at the church doors the weekend of September 14/15.

Triduum Schedule

Friday, September 27
7:00 PM Mass
Litany of Saint Raphael before Mass
Punch and cookies after Mass

Saturday, September 28
4:00 PM Vigil Mass
will include special prayers to our patron

Sunday, September 29
The Feast of the Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael
Special prayers to our patron during all Masses

Healing Mass Sunday, September 29, 2:00 PM at Saint Ann Church

On Sunday afternoon, September 29 Father John will celebrate a Mass of Healing which will include the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. What a meaningful way to close our celebration of Saint Raphael, whose very name means *God heals*.

Since the Second Vatican Council this sacrament has undergone a transformation. Once called "Last Rites" or "Extreme Unction," it is no longer just for those in imminent danger of death, but for all Catholics whose "health is seriously impaired by sickness or old age." Because it is the entire community, the People of God, who pray for God's help for the sick person, Anointing is often celebrated, as it will be at this Mass, with family and friends in attendance. The focus is on trust in God, for whatever happens, and on healing, in whatever form that may take.



When the priest anoints a person's forehead with blessed oil he prays, "Through this holy anointing may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit." When the hands are anointed, he says: "May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up." The sick person responds, "Amen."

We encourage all those who are ill or facing surgery to attend this special liturgy. If you would like to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick during the Healing Mass, please call the parish office (203-874-0634).

Notes from Our Fabulous Tag Sale Team



- 1) The Tag Sale is on! This major parish fund raiser is set for **Saturday, September 28 and Sunday, September 29, 9 am - 3 pm at the Saint Ann Campus**. Treasures abound!
- 2) Help wanted: setup volunteers, Monday (9/23) through Friday (9/27), 6:30-8:30 pm.
- 3) Help wanted: **box truck**, to transport any "leftovers" to Savers after tag sale weekend. (If we can deliver everything in one truckload we can earn additional \$ from Savers.) Have truck, willing to travel? Call MaryJo (203-882-0695). Thanks.

This Just In From Tag Sale HQ

As we were going to press this note appeared in our inbox:

The cutoff date for Tag Sale donations is Monday, September 9.

Thanks so much for your continued generosity.

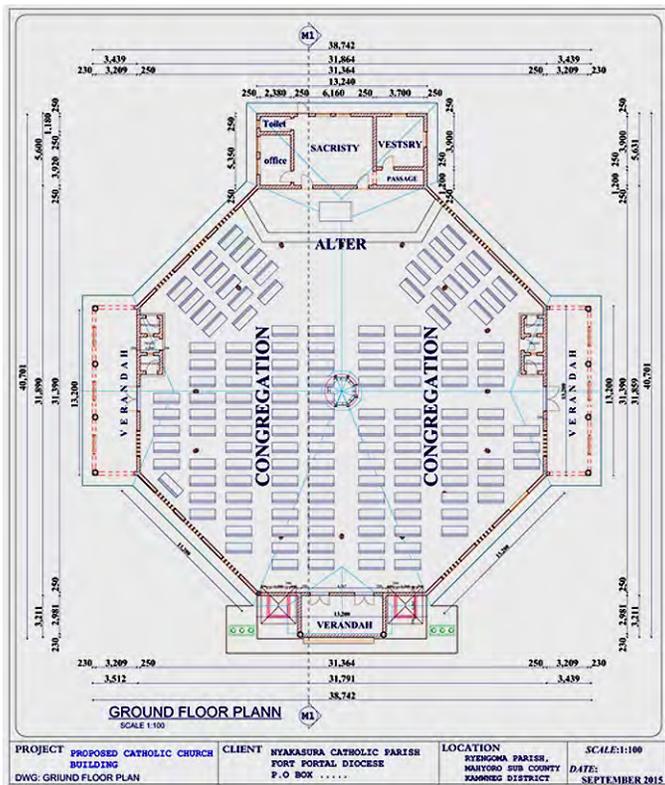
See you Tag Sale weekend!

Bring Your Giving Vine Gifts To Weekend Mass

The Summer Giving Vines program, organized by T4S (Teens for Service), serves parish families in need as well as organizations like the Milford Senior Center, Beth-El Center, Bridges, Bridgeport Rescue Mission, Saint Vincent Family Center, United Way's Milford Diaper Bank and Mary & Joseph's Place in North Haven.

Kindly return gifts and gift cards (with paper ornaments attached) when you come to weekend Mass. Need knows no season, and we are very grateful for your generosity.





Fr. Patrick's Church - On the Drawing Board!

Fresh from Uganda - working drawings for Father Patrick's church! (Larger ones are posted on the church bulletin boards.) Saint Raphael parishioners generously contributed \$4,365 toward the project through free will offerings. Well done!

Parish Press Info Due September 10

What's coming up for your ministry or your family? Taking your annual October leaf-peeping weekend? Heading off to tour the globe?

Share your news with the parish! Send your info (and photos!) to parishpress06460@gmail.com or call Ann Eden (203-874-8744).

An August Group at the August Reception



Fr. Maroney, Deacon Tom, his wife Gloria and Fr. John, all smiles at the terrific August 4 reception.

Photo courtesy of Clifford Mason

Spring Into Scripture

A Biblical Look at The Ten Commandments

Saturday, September 14, 10:00 am
Thursday, September 19, 7:00 pm
Saint Ann Parish Center



During September's *Spring Into Scripture* sessions Mary Lee Frisbie will look more closely at The Ten Commandments through a Scriptural lens. Where did they come from? What do they mean? What does Scripture say about them? Join us for an interesting perspective on what the Catholic Catechism calls the "laws that God has revealed to us."

Pastoral Council Will Meet September 23



The Pastoral Council, on hiatus for the summer, will resume its regular schedule of fourth Monday meetings on September 23 at 7:00 pm in the Saint Ann Parish library.

Current Council members are: Trish Black, Kathleen Buchanan, Cathy Coda, Paula Demirjiam, Ann Eden, Tom Jagodzinski, Rose Marie Marmolejo, Albert May, Pat Pavlucik, Lou Servideo, Rich Wheeling and Tom Zawislinski.

The Pastoral Council assists the Pastor in planning and developing programs, improving pastoral services and evaluating the effectiveness of those programs and services. If you have ideas or suggestions for the Council or would like to serve on one of its Standing Committees (open to all parishioners), please call the parish office (203-874-0634) or send an email to pcsaintraphael@gmail.com.

Focus on the Rosary

Tuesday Evening Rosary Recitation Resumes September 3 at 7:00 PM

Join with the parish Rosary Prayer Group in the Saint Ann Children's Chapel and offer praise to our Blessed Mother by reciting her special prayer, the Rosary. Pray for peace, for the parish, for your own particular needs, remembering the events of Mary's life through the Rosary's Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Luminous mysteries.



First Saturday Fatima Devotion Begins October 5 11:00 AM at Saint Ann Church

On First Saturdays from October through February the people of Saint Raphael parish gather to say the Rosary in honor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. When our Blessed Mother appeared to the children at Fatima in 1917 she asked them to pray the Rosary and encouraged a special observance of First Saturdays. Please be with us for this prayerful devotion.

International Rosary

Tuesday, October 8, 7:00 PM, Saint Gabriel Church

Pray the Rosary in a variety of languages during October's International Rosary. As part of this long-standing parish tradition, multi-lingual parishioners lead each of the five decades in a different language, an eloquent expression of the universal character of the Catholic Church. The evening features favorite Marian hymns and concludes with refreshments.

GIFT Sacramental Program Schedule

First Reconciliation/ First Communion

Saturday, September 7
10:30 - 11:30 am

Required Information
Session for
parents/guardians of
children entering
the program
Parish Center Classroom
Saint Ann Campus

Confirmation

Year 1 Candidates

Tuesday, September 10
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Overview Session
with a parent or guardian
Parish Center Classroom
Saint Ann Campus

Year 2 Candidates

Sunday, September 15
1:00 - 5:00 pm

Confirmation Retreat
Saint Ann Parish Center

GIFT: Growing In Faith Together Faith Formation for People of All Ages

Theme for 2019-2020: Following Jesus Through the Church Year

September is here, time for GIFT's opening weekend. We'll begin following Jesus through the Church year by looking first at the Identity of Christ, learning more about Jesus as fully divine and fully human. We'll also look more closely at Mary and at some "September Saints" on the Church calendar. We encourage all parishioners to join us for this opening session, which is required for our first year Confirmation candidates with a parent or guardian.

GIFT participants choose between the Friday evening or Sunday afternoon sessions. Whether it's Friday or Sunday, all sessions begin with a catered dinner in our Parish Center Hall (501 Naugatuck Avenue). After dinner we pray and sing together. Deacon George gives a brief overview of our topic, and we enjoy an all-ages opening activity. Participants then break into age-appropriate learning groups, where we look at the topic in depth. Sessions close in the church with a prayer service and distribution of home kits, engaging tools for continued learning between the monthly GIFT sessions.

GIFT is Saint Raphael's highly regarded parish religious education/faith formation program. For families with children, we require the participation of at least one adult. It has been wonderful to see entire families participate in GIFT. Please note, however, that the program is not limited to families with children and teens. We encourage all adult parishioners to join us - singles, empty nesters, couples of all ages. Come and be part of our separate (and often lively) breakout sessions for adults. Listen, explore and discuss the monthly topics with an adult level of understanding.

If you have questions or would like additional information about GIFT please contact Maria Tomasetti, 203-988-8598 (cell phone) or atomasetti@snet.net.

Following Jesus Through the Church Year

The Identity of Christ
Friday, September 20
6:00 - 8:30 pm

Sunday, September 22
12:00 Noon - 2:30 pm
Saint Ann Parish Center Hall



Parish Coffee Klatches - Less about the Coffee, More about the *And*

Dunkin? Starbucks? Tim Horton's? Mom's? You can get a pretty lively discussion going about which coffee's the best. Spinditty.com ran a piece last fall that rated songs about coffee according to how they "explore the deeper meaning of the bean." So what's the deeper meaning behind our having not one, but two monthly coffee klatches? The coffee here is minor. It's all about the *and*.

Saint Ann's Second Weekend *Coffee And* Saturday and Sunday, September 14 and 15

Stop in to the Parish Center after weekend Masses at Saint Ann's. You'll enjoy the coffee, for sure. What you'll really enjoy is the *And*, not just the tasty baked goods from our talented bakers, but the chance to meet and mingle with fellow parishioners, to appreciate our growing sense of oneness as a parish community.

This venue also offers the opportunity to browse and buy at the Card & Gift Shop and to pick up/order Scrip cards from hundreds of different merchants, a painless way to support the parish.

Saint Gabriel's 4th Sunday *Coffee and Conversation* After Masses on September 22

The *And* for this gathering is clearly stated. Stroll over to the Saint Gabriel Parish Hall after the 8 or the 11, prepared for good coffee and even better *Conversation*. Sample the treats (all non-caloric, we hear) and chat with the members of the parish family.

Subtitles for this new event could include *Coffee and the Chance to Stroll Along the Shore*, *Coffee and Doesn't the Garden Look Nice?*, *Coffee and I Love Seeing the Sunshine on the Water*. What could be better?

Pray for the Success of the Archdiocesan Synod, *Grow and Go*

Grow as a disciple and Go make disciples! is the theme of the Archdiocese of Hartford's Synod 2020. Our parish delegates, Jim Amaan and Pat Kurowski, have been preparing for next month's Archdiocesan Synod Meeting. Please pray for them and for the success of the Synod.



Saturday, October 26
8th Annual 5K Trick or Trot
Run/Walk to Benefit Beth-El
Lisman Landing, Milford
Registration: 7:30 am
Race: 9:00 am

If you'd like to help raise awareness and funds for Beth-El Center shelter and soup kitchen ministries please reach out to Maria Tomasetti (as above). Maria has registration information, too. Note: Registration before October 12 guarantees a Milford Trick of Trot T-shirt!

**GIFT, Healing Mass, Tag Sale,
Celebrate Saint Raphael**

Ready, set, September! And the calendar is filling up, especially toward month's end, when GIFT sessions resume, and treasure hunters gather for our annual Tag Sale.



As his feast day approaches (9/29) we'll celebrate Saint Raphael and we'll hold the sick and suffering in prayer during the Healing Mass on the Feast of the Archangels.

We've doubled our opportunities for after-Mass coffee gatherings - check inside for details. Tuesday evening rosary recitation begins again and we have updates on the Christmas Fair. (What? Already?)

Look for the working drawing for Father Patrick's church in Uganda and for a great photo from Deacon Tom's reception. Enjoy September.

The Parish Press

A Publication of Saint Raphael Parish
Milford, Connecticut
Editor: Ann K. Eden
Production Staff: Lou Eden, Nancy Vai
Printing: Graphic Image, Milford, CT

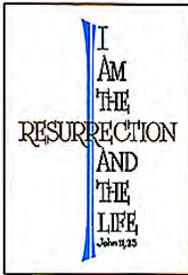
SAINT RAPHAEL PARISH
Saint Ann Church Saint Gabriel Church
501 Naugatuck Ave.
Milford, CT 06460-5048

NON PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MILFORD, CT
PERMIT NO. 362

In Memoriam

Saint Raphael's mourns the recent loss of

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| John Matera | Lucille Bedrin |
| Mary Waters | William Heckler |
| Ray Knapp | Mary Scopp |
| Vincent Spata | Dorothy Schmidt |
| Sebastiano "Benny" Faustini | |



May angels welcome them to Paradise and may their families find comfort in their faith and in their wonderful memories.

Bereavement Support September 8



The parish's Bereavement Support group will meet on Sunday afternoon, September 8, at 2 o'clock in the Saint Ann Children's Chapel. Gathered with people who have known the pain of loss we'll consider *Where We Are on Our Journey of Grief*. If you have questions about the support group or the topic you may call Joanne (203-877-4020).

Welcome!

to the newest members of our parish family,

- Juliana Rose Griswold
Leia Haddad
Zachary Robillard
Liam Dussan
Ryan Jachym



Juliana was baptized at Saint Ann Church on Sunday, July 21. Leia, Zachary, Liam and Ryan received the life-giving waters of Baptism on Sunday, August 4 at Saint Gabriel's. May God bless and protect you always, little ones, and fill your lives with joy and gladness.

Christmas Fair Update

15 Classroom Vendor Spots Available

Claim your spot now, vendors, and be part of this festive holiday event on Saturday, December 7, 9 am - 3 pm. For registration information email Maureen Hanson at mhanson808@gmail.com.



Team Needs Donations for the Raffle Room

Our hardworking Christmas Fair team needs prizes for the ever-popular raffle room. Gift cards are always a draw, and our elves are adept at creating gorgeous baskets from a variety of small items. Can you help?

Also, if you ask, your hair salon, favorite restaurant, nail salon or other local business might be willing to make a donation. Thanks for your assistance.



Sunday, September 29
Lighthouse Point Park
New Haven
Registration: 8:30 am
Ceremony: 10 am
Walk: 10:30 am

The Alzheimer's Association's free 24/7 Helpline provides reliable information and support to all those who need assistance. Call 800-272-3900.