



SAINT RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

CATHOLIC CHURCH

DECEMBER 15, 2024 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



WELCOME!


VISIT OR CONTACT US


6047 Bishops Place
Saint Louis, MO 63109

314.352.8100
straphaelarchangel.org

Mon.-Thu. | 7:30am-4:00pm
Fri. | 7:30am-12:00pm

 @SRAtoday

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SCHOOL INFORMATION

6000 Jamieson Avenue
Saint Louis, MO 63109

314.352.9474 | 314.351.7477 (Fax)

Mon.-Fri. | 7:00am-3:00pm

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND MASS

Saturday | 7:00am, 4:30pm
Sunday | 9:00am

WEEKDAY MASS

Mon. - Fri. | 8:00am

CONFESSION

Monday - Friday | 7:30am
Saturday | 3:30pm
Other | By Appointment

CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

Mon.-Fri. | 8:00am-2:00pm
Saturday | 8:00am-4:30pm



PARISH CLERGY

Fr. Thomas Molini, Pastor
thomasmolini@archstl.org

Fr. Robert Lawson, Associate Pastor
robertlawson@archstl.org

LAY LEADERSHIP

Brian McCarthy, Pastoral Council
brianmccarthy@peaknet.net

Liz Murphey, School Board
schoolboard@straphaelarchangel.org

Joseph Cyr, Finance Council
314.335.7322

Jacqueline Ilg, HSA President
hsa@straphaelarchangel.org

PARISH STAFF

Ray and Mary Anne Braun, Music
Ministers
Braun@straphaelarchangel.org

Diane Halbert, Parish Office
Manager
halbert@straphaelarchangel.org

Mickey Janos, Admn. Assistant
janos@straphaelarchangel.org

Pam Hager, Parish Support Staff/
Child Safety Coordinator
hager@straphaelarchangel.org

Robert Schlueter, Maintenance

Julie Hayes, School Principal
hayes@straphaelarchangel.org

Kathy Shaver, School Secretary
secretary@straphaelarchangel.org

Qi Franz, Cafeteria Manager
franz@straphaelarchangel.org

Sarah Henderson, Youth Minister
hendersons@stgabrielstl.org

DECEMBER 15, 2024 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Fr. Molini's Notes

Third Sunday of Advent

The prophet Zephaniah offers this prophecy in our first reading: "The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior; he will rejoice over you with gladness and renew you in his love..." The prophet sees the presence of God among his people, not with fear and retribution, but with joy and renewal. John the Baptist reiterates this in his call to responsible discipleship. Our daily lives must reflect the faith we profess, as demonstrated in our charity toward others and in our humility as children of God. John even distinguishes his prophecy as apart from that of "...one mightier than I..." In the power of his preaching, John holds nothing for himself, always directing attention to Jesus.

What a beautiful message for Advent, and the joy that is assured those who live in expectation of Christ's coming. How do we show our joy in the works of charity, the humility of forgiveness, the devotion to prayerfulness, the participation in community? Our Savior came to bind us together as a body, THE Body of Christ. How do we foster that unity in peace? The prophets call us to renewal. It begins with our recognition of the need to be renewed, and then the confidence to rely upon the One who will "...gather the wheat into his barn..." accepting the Good News he shares.

Christmas Masses...and seat saving

The beauty of the Christmas feast is found in the celebration that brings so many home, and home to the church as well. Please remember if you are charged with "saving seats" for others, **all empty seats are considered "open" 10 minutes before Mass begins.** The ushers will be instructed to begin filling the pews with those already in church so we can begin Mass on time. Please share the word with others.

Christmas Masses:

St. Raphael the Archangel: December 24 – 4:30 pm
December 25 – 9:00 am

St. Gabriel the Archangel: December 24 – 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm, 11:00 pm
December 25 – 6:30 am, 8:00 am, 10:00 am

Protecting God's Children

Did you know that all employees and volunteers in the schools and parishes of the Archdiocese of St. Louis are required to be in compliance with the Safe Environment Program to help prevent the abuse of a minor



or vulnerable adult? Those who work with or near minors or vulnerable adults are required to: (1) attend a Protecting God's Children workshop; (2) complete a national criminal background screening and agree to regular updates; and (3) commit to the Archdiocese's Code of Ethical Conduct for Clergy, Employees, and Volunteers Working in Ministry policy.

Please contact the parish office to complete these compliance efforts. Call 314.352.8100 for details and to sign up for a PGC workshop; or email Pam Hager, SRA's Child Safety Coordinator at hager@straphaelarchangel.org. Thank you.

Gourmet nuts have arrived! If you have placed a pre-order, you should expect delivery to your home within a few days. You may still purchase nuts from the SVdP Team after this weekend's Masses, or you may call Patti Webers at 314-496-8836. Thank you for your support.



Sunday, December 15
9:00am Joseph A. Walsh, Jr.

Monday, December 16
8:00am Faith Ivery

Tuesday, December 17
8:00am Liddy Family

Wednesday, December 18
8:00am Kris Schneidewind

Thursday, December 19
8:00am Mary Mahoney

Friday, December 20
8:00am Karen Divis

Saturday, December 21
7:00am Dan Harbaugh
4:30pm Kimling Family

Sunday, December 22
9:00am Joyce Marcuzzo

"I have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God." PHILIPPIANS 4:6

St. Paul reminds us that God is an abundant God, the ultimate giver of gifts. He promises to give us all that we need. Remember, that we are created in God's image and likeness. We, too, are made to be generous with all of our gifts. Placing our trust in God frees us from slavery to our possessions. It allows us, gratefully and generously, to share ourselves and our goods with others.

Your Contributions to God and Parish

Dec. 8, 2024	This Week	Year-to-Date
(Envelopes Used)		
Regular Env. (65)	\$ 4,962.00	\$ 99,205.00
Loose Money	\$ 2,166.00	\$ 40,207.00
School Support	\$ 230.00	\$ 4,110.00
Building Fund	\$ 65.00	\$ 3,570.00
Online Giving (46)	\$ 2,396.00	\$ 65,999.00
Christmas flowers	\$ 165.00	
Christmas offering	\$ 25.00	
Kenrick Seminary	(\$ 125.00)	
Grand Total	\$ 10,134.00	
Total for Parish	\$ 10,009.00	\$ 217,633.00
Amount Needed	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 230,000.00
Difference	\$9.00	<u>(\$ 12,367)</u>
FYE 2024		<u>(\$ 17,741)</u>

St. Vincent de Paul

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist tells us to share our clothing and our food with the person who has none. You are beautiful examples of this charity when you share your gifts with our neighbors in need. Through your generosity, we have been able to help so many right here in our parish. We have prepared them for the winter cold with coats, scarves, hats, and gloves. Thank you.

This weekend's Sacred Scripture readings:

Sunday, December 15:
Ritual Song: No. 1098
Pray Together: Page 31





ALTAR SERVERS

SERVERS FOR DECEMBER 16 - 22, 2024

Monday, December 16

8:00am Hannah Kratky Kerry Mense
William Schneeberger

Tuesday, December 17

8:00am Grace Berta Mac Teeter
Harrison Baker

Wednesday, December 18

8:00am Xavier Cyr Lucas Kuenzel
Vivien Smith

Thursday, December 19

8:00am Paddy Meier Archie Geisz
Sean Meier

Friday, December 20

8:00am Eleanor Chitwood Henry Dirnbeck
Mollie Dirnbeck

Saturday, December 21

4:30pm Kate Ilg Lucy Howard
Clara Thompson

Sunday, December 22

9:00am Samatha Zouglas Isaac Potts
Jude Potts

LECTORS/MINISTERS FOR THE WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 21 - 22

LECTORS

4:30pm Christy Connor
9:00am Steve Kratky

Extraordinary Ministers

Tony Mariani Lisa Murphy
Pam Hager Mary Faith Green
Christy Connor John Rooney



Monday, December 16

8:00am Church Mass
6:00pm Cafeteria 3rd Gr. Girl Scouts
7:00pm Tobias Rm. School Board

Tuesday, December 17

8:00am Church Mass
3:30pm Cafeteria 1st Gr. Boy Scouts
7:00pm Cafeteria Men's Club Meeting

Wednesday, December 18

7:30am Church Rosary
8:00am Church Mass
8:30pm Gym Old Man Basketball

Thursday, December 19

8:00am Church Mass
2:00pm Cafeteria Dance Class
5:00pm Gym Basketball Clinic
7:00pm Cafeteria Ladies' Club Meeting

Friday, December 20

7:30am Church Rosary
8:00am Church Mass

Saturday, December 21

7:00am Church Mass
8:00am Church Music Ministry Rehearsal
4:30pm Church Mass

Sunday, December 22

9:00am Church Mass - Donut Sunday

DAILY READINGS

Sunday	Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (6)/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18
Monday	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday	Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17
Wednesday	Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25
Thursday	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25
Friday	Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-
Saturday	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45
Next Sunday	Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

St. Raphael Advent Angel Giving Tree

Our St. Vincent De Paul Conference is sponsoring the Advent Angel Giving Tree, that benefits St. Peter & Paul Community Services. P&P offers various services to those who are unhoused, many of whom are living with mental illness, addiction, or long-term medical conditions. They offer transitional housing, employment opportunities, and other programs to support the goal of living independently.

Our parish will provide gifts for residents of the Supportive Housing program, Garfield Place Apartments. GPA provides clients with a permanent place to stay while also providing supportive services, including a nurse, occupational therapist, and educational classes on topics such as financial literacy and healthy eating. In addition, we will provide gifts to participants in the Positive Directions programs who are living with HIV. Positive Directions helps to provide resources to keep people healthy and housed.

If you are interested in participating, please return your gifts NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, at the 9:00am Mass. DO NOT wrap your gifts- but DO attach the tag to the gift so we can be sure it gets to the correct person.

We are grateful for your continued generosity, allowing us to provide needed support to this organization



Infant Baptism

Baptism is the first Sacrament of Christian Initiation. For a child to be baptized at St. Raphael, parents must be registered and practicing Catholics. Parents are expected to participate in a Baptismal Preparation Class. The class is held on the first Monday of each month at 7:30pm in the rectory lower level of St. Gabriel the Archangel. Please call the St. Gabriel parish office at 314.353.6303 to register for the class, or contact the St. Raphael parish office at 314.352.8100.

We would like to welcome the following new member to our church. We hope you know that we are here for you. There are several committees and clubs that you might like to join where you can meet other parishioners. As a faith community, we like to help others in our area and those less fortunate than we are. Please join us at Mass and we hope you will consider joining us in future church activities. Again, welcome to St. Raphael the Archangel Parish; we are happy to have you join us.

Thomas and Kathleen Donahue

New and Expectant Parent Network (N.E.X.T.)

The SRA New and Expectant Parent Network (N.E.X.T.) exists to support parents who are expecting or have recently given birth to or lost a child. The Network is always willing to accept new members and referrals or requests for our support. This includes meal delivery for about four to six weeks, prayers, and any baby supplies needed for the family. We are also in contact with our sister parish, Most Holy Trinity, to offer the same support to members in need at that parish. You may contact N.E.X.T. at nextministry@straphaelarchangel.org. Thank you.



JOIN US!

Every third Thursday in the cafeteria

SERVICE • COMMUNITY • FELLOWSHIP

The SRA Ladies' Club is continually adding new members and looking for ideas to support the school, the parish, and each other. Come as you are, and stay as long, or as little as you would like for a meeting, food, drinks, and friendship. We have multiple events throughout the year, including the Uniform Exchange, Fall Mum Sale, Christmas Wreath Sale, and more. Our two largest fundraisers are Vendor Fair and Quarter Auction. These events raise money to sponsor funds for teacher appreciation, school needs, parish needs, Girl Scouts, class trips, Prayer Shawl Mission, and other SRA needs.

Save the Dates:



12/19 - Christmas Pot Luck, Gift Exchange and President/Treasurer Elections 7p

For more information, contact ladies@straphaelarchangel.org or Krissy Sullivan at 314-608-9983.

WINTER OUTREACH - A MINISTRY OF MERCY

Encouraged by our Catholic Social Teachings, "Option for the Poor and Vulnerable," many parish communities are committed to making St. Louis Winter Outreach a faith-filled Ministry of Mercy. "As long as you did it to one of these the least of my brethren, you did it to me." MT 25:31-46

As winter approaches, our homeless "brethren" will spend cold days and nights on the streets of St. Louis. In an effort to give them some comfort, we are asking for help in providing meals to an overflow shelter.

DATES: SATURDAYS (1:00pm Dropoff)

January 11

February 8

Please consider joining our Ministry of Mercy by providing one or more of the following:

9x13" Casserole: meat, fish, veggie, or breakfast

Cookies, cupcakes, breads: (12 to 24 servings)

Prepared food should be baked, frozen, wrapped, and marked. Donations are to be dropped off at Our Lady of Sorrows parking lot at 1:00pm. If needed, other arrangements can be made. For more information or if you would like to share a dish, please contact Mary Ellen Mueller: 314.374.1712 or email maryem@brick.net.

Auction Donation Blitz and Blues Raffle!

Save the Date: 2025 Black and Gold Auction is Saturday, February 15, 2025!
Please consider donating to the Auction when holiday shopping!



Donations brought to the parish office before New Years Day will be entered into a drawing to win four Blues tickets donated by a friend of SRA!
(Mutually agreeable date)

Check us out at:

“St. Raphael the Archangel Black and Gold Auction”



Donation dropoff at parish office (courtyard entrance) - 314.352.8100:
Monday-Thursday 7:30am – 4:00pm & Friday 7:30am – 12:00pm
Please fill out the donation form and raffle ticket form below for any donated items
Forms are available in the parish office
Questions: contact Mark Pfeiffer - auction.st.raphael@gmail.com

Donation Blitz – Blues Raffle Ticket

(Please also submit “Donation Form”)

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Item Donated: _____

Value: _____





Saint Raphael the Archangel

Black & Gold Dinner Auction

Saturday February 15th,
2025

**All donations must
be received by
February 10th, 2025**

Tickets are on sale now!



Donation Form

Donor _____

Contact Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Description (Quantity, Size, Color, Restrictions, Expiration Date, Etc.) _____

Value of Donation _____ Donor Signature _____

_____ Please arrange for SRA to pick up items(s) _____ Item(s) to be delivered to SRA

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO SAINT RAPHAEL SCHOOL

Saint Raphael the Archangel is a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

Federal Tax ID # 43-0653561 NCEA 246242

For online giving or to purchase tickets, visit the
Auction website at
<https://blackandgold25.givesmart.com>

QUESTIONS?

Contact the Auction committee at auction.st.raphael@gmail.com.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY

_____ TANGIBLE ITEMS TO DISPLAY

_____ GIFT CERTIFICATE(S) PROVIDED BY DONOR

_____ SRA TO CREATE CERTIFICATE(S) FOR DONATED ITEMS(S)









SOLICITED BY _____

NOTES/SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS _____

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Thank you for your support!

	<p>St. Raphael the Archangel Black and Gold Dinner Auction Saturday, February 15, 2025</p> <p>Drawing will be held during our live auction!</p>	<p>50/50 Raffle Ticket \$20 per ticket or sheet of 8 for \$125</p>	<p>Name: _____ Phone #: _____ Address: _____</p> <p><i>*Ticket sales will end at 7p on 2/15/2024.*</i> <i>*Need not be present to win*</i></p>
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Welcome to ARCHANGEL YOUTH MINISTRY (AYM) covering the parishes of the St. Louis Hills neighborhood (St. Gabriel & St. Raphael). **AYM** is open to all high school teens. No sign-up necessary and teens do not need to be from the St. Louis Hills parishes to participate. High school teens can attend on a regular basis or drop in as it fits their schedules.

Weekly **Sunday Life Teen Nights** (6:45-8:30pm in Gabriel House) include snacks, socializing, games, talks, and discussions.

Wednesday R&R Nights (7-8:30pm in Gabriel House) are unstructured evenings for teens to hang out (recharge & reconnect). See the AYM calendar for specific dates.

Luke 18 Retreat 2025:

"Believe" | April 25 - 27

Team Member (high school teens) registration is now OPEN via the Google Form link. Please read all the required preparation meeting dates and times before registering and contact Sarah with any questions.

Google Form Registration:

<https://forms.gle/ZkwF9YdUiRwpc7qY6>

DECEMBER INFO

Life Teen Nights will occur every Sunday in December from 6:45-8:30pm in Gabriel house.

Our next Teen Mass with Christmas Party to follow will be **Sunday, December 22**. Teens interested in having a part in the Mass should contact Sarah ASAP.

Our Christmas Party dinner will be pizza and one of the games will be a white elephant gift exchange. All gifts should be something found at home (nothing broken nor trash) and wrapped.

LOOKING AHEAD

***April 25 - 27 | Luke 18 Retreat!** | for 8th graders, led by high school teens | Registration and more information to come.

***July 18 - 20 | AYM at Steubenville 2025!** | for current 8th- 12th grade students | Registration is OPEN!

STAY CONNECTED with AYM

Follow us on Instagram @archangelym

Like our Facebook Group: Archangel Youth Ministry

Join the SGA or SRA Flocknote Group: Youth Ministry

Visit the Youth Group page on the SGA parish website

Contact Youth Minister: Sarah Henderson - hendersons@stgabrielstl.org

LARGE-PRINT MISSALETTE

The new, large-print edition of the *Pray Together* missalette for December 1, 2024, through April 12, 2025, is now available. If you would like one, please stop by the parish office to pick one up. The office hours are Monday - Thursday from 7:30am until 4:00pm and Friday from 7:30am until noon.

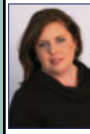
Mass Intentions

Mass intentions are available in the parish office. Please call the office or stop by Monday through Thursday, 7:30am until 4:00pm, and Friday 7:30am until noon, with your Special Intention or Repose of the Soul intention requests. The suggested offering is \$10 per Mass intention. If needed, you can pick up a card to send to the family when you drop off your offering.



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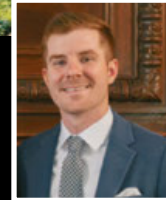
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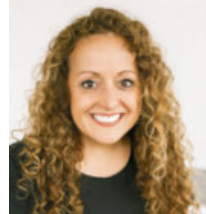
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