

May 2023

Saint Raphael



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Sunday, June 11: The Eucharistic Revival Begins!

Mark your calendars for Sunday, June 11! That's the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, when we celebrate Jesus's gift of His Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity in Holy Communion. This year, it will mark the beginning of our Eucharistic Revival, culminating in 2024 with a national Eucharistic Congress. St. Raphael and parishes around the Diocese of Cleveland are rejoicing with

a historic Eucharistic procession!

What's a Eucharistic Procession? The Blessed Sacrament is placed inside a beautiful vessel called a monstrance, which has a transparent window so that the Host can be seen and worshiped by everyone. The word "monstrance" comes from the Latin word *monstrare* meaning "to show". In a Eucharistic procession, a priest carries the monstrance, often escorted by servers holding a canopy (yes, St. Raphael has one!). A multitude of parishioners will follow in this walk through the neighborhood streets that border Saint Raphael Church. It's an opportunity to share what is most important to us as Catholics: the Real Eucharistic presence of Jesus! Although these events were common 60 years ago, today most Americans have never seen or participated in a Eucharistic Procession.

At the end of the Noon Mass on Sunday, June 11, instead of a final blessing, the monstrance will be placed on the altar, and prepared for the Blessed Sacrament. Children in their First Holy Communion finery, together with their families, will lead the procession. Following them will be the choir, providing beautiful music, and representatives of our many parish ministries: from the Guild, day school and PSR teachers, lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Athletics, Youth Ministry and more! You



Procession in Sanok, Poland
Silar, Wikimedia Commons

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Sunday, June 11:

The Eucharistic Revival Begins!

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and your family, and the entire community are invited to participate in this amazing moment!

Labels on the floor along the Zwilling hallway will make it easy for everyone to know where to line up following the Mass. Our Parish Staff is working with Bay Village officials to coordinate the necessary arrangements for this event. The procession will depart from our ceremonial entrance down to Dover Center Road, and then to Osborn, Douglas, Oviatt, and back around Dover Center and into the church for a final Eucharistic blessing! This is a rain or shine event, but we need your prayers for a beautiful day and a year-long Revival that will bear great fruit!

The sight of a parade of Holy Communion children, a golden monstrance under a canopy, a singing choir, and a huge number of parishioners makes a statement. It speaks clearly about what we think is important, and what we believe, to everyone who sees it. For some neighbors in our Bay Village community, this may be the only time in their lives they lay eyes on Jesus in the Eucharist. Some will never forget it, and the moment may change their future – and their eternity! A Eucharistic Procession is a gift of love to our neighborhood, a way to share the greatest blessing we have. The Real Presence of Jesus can bring healing and hope everywhere He goes.

It also makes a statement to ourselves. Did you once find great peace in the Blessed Sacrament, but you strayed away from regularly attending Mass? Or maybe you've never really believed that the consecrated Host is truly Jesus. A beautiful symbol, yes, but not just a symbol. God's presence in the Eucharist is a passionate reality. If you wish you could believe, if you once believed, or if you want your children and grandchildren to believe, please join us. Your heart will be touched and your life will be grateful for this forever memory.

A Eucharistic procession also links us with the wider Catholic Church. Not only will parishes across Cleveland and the United States be hosting Corpus Christi processions, but also worldwide. Pope Francis usually leads one in Rome every year.

Importantly, the Eucharistic Revival includes the whole People of God. That means YOU! Even if your health limits you walking in the procession, we need support from prayer warriors. Please join us in praying the following prayer each day as we plan and prepare for Corpus Christi Sunday: the day that the Church celebrates Jesus' gift to us: The Body and Blood of Christ!

Prayer for the Eucharistic Revival

This prayer has been translated into 16 different languages, from Latin to Croatian to Braille.

Visit <https://www.dioceseofcleveland.org/eucharistic-revival> to pray it (or share it) in a different language!

Lord Jesus, as we gather at Your altar, You give yourself to us in the Most Holy Eucharist, so that we might become what we receive.

By Your holy presence we are blessed. May we be transformed forever by Your love that stretches forth to us from this altar. May Your sharing in our humanity humble us to share in Your divinity.

Heal our brokenness with Your Real Presence and help us to draw strength from You in the Eucharist. Unite us to You in this Sacrament that brings healing and redemption.

As we glorify You by our lives, give us grace and courage to share Your love with a world sorely in need of Your mercy. May Your true presence bring hope to those on the peripheries, dry the tears of the poor and the wounded, and end our divisions.

May Your Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity be a constant source of revival for us. Let us become one with You as we seek the peace of Your kingdom where You live with the Father and the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

Celebrate Hope – Celebrate Life!

Do you know someone touched by cancer? A wife, husband, mother, father, brother, sister, friend or neighbor? Are you a cancer patient, survivor or a caregiver concerned about a loved one or someone you know? Fr. Tim will preside at a Mass in honor of St. Peregrine, the Patron Saint of those with cancer: Monday, May 22nd, 7:00pm in the church. A reception will follow in the Community Room. All are welcome!



Rosary for Revival!

Pray the Rosary every day this month for a successful Eucharistic revival, and a renewed faith in the Blessed Sacrament.

By Maggie Brady

The Rosary can take just 20 minutes, and it doesn't have to be prayed all at once: it's OK to pray a decade in the car, a couple on your lunch break, and a few before bed. It's an easy prayer for kids and other beginners, but also offers a fruitful discipline for the experienced.

Here are some ideas to jump-start your Rosary experience:

Pray in Public

Here at St. Raphael we have a great opportunity to witness to our community about the importance of prayer. Every week, on Wednesday at 6 pm, parishioners meet on the (Dover Center) front lawn at the statue of Mary to pray the Rosary for peace, freedom, and salvation. It's rain or shine! Arrange to meet friends there.



Pray With Your Family

Schedules may be too tight for everyone in the family to sit down and eat dinner together. But we can definitely end the day by praying together, even if it's just 1 decade of the Rosary. Give a different child each day the responsibility of leading the prayer. Discuss the events in the lives of Jesus and Mary that are contained in each part of the Rosary: Imagine you were there, how would you feel? How would you respond?

Use a Prayer App

A great, totally free option available for both Apple and Android devices is Laudate. It offers an interactive Rosary that displays the appropriate prayer when users click a bead. The beads change color as they are clicked so its easy to keep your place. You can also check out the buzzy new app, Hallow. This app has paid content, but it does have lots of free Rosary resources that are helpful.

Try an Audio Version

Perhaps the simplest way for busy people to incorporate the Rosary is listening to (and praying with) a recorded session. It's hands-free and there's no chance you'll lose your spot, so you can focus on meditating on the mysteries. YouTube offers options with all kinds of voices: men, women, teens. There are animated versions for kids and there are even recordings featuring the voices of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist or the Sisters of Life. The Hallow app even features an audio version recited by Mark Wahlberg. One drawback: Recordings may pray faster or slower than you would prefer.



What is a “mystery”?

The mysteries of the Rosary are moments in salvation history that we can contemplate while praying. Traditionally, certain mysteries belong to particular days of the week, but that’s not required: You can choose to pray over mysteries that speak to your day or events going on in the world.

The Glorious Mysteries (Sundays and Wednesdays)

- The Resurrection: Jesus rises from the dead on the first Easter.
- The Ascension: Jesus returns to Heaven as the disciples watch.
- The Descent of the Holy Spirit: At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit comes down on the apostles to give them spiritual power.
- The Assumption of Mary: At her death, St. Mary is assumed, body and soul, into Heaven.
- The Coronation of Mary: St. Mary is crowned queen of Heaven and earth.

The Joyful Mysteries (Mondays and Saturdays)

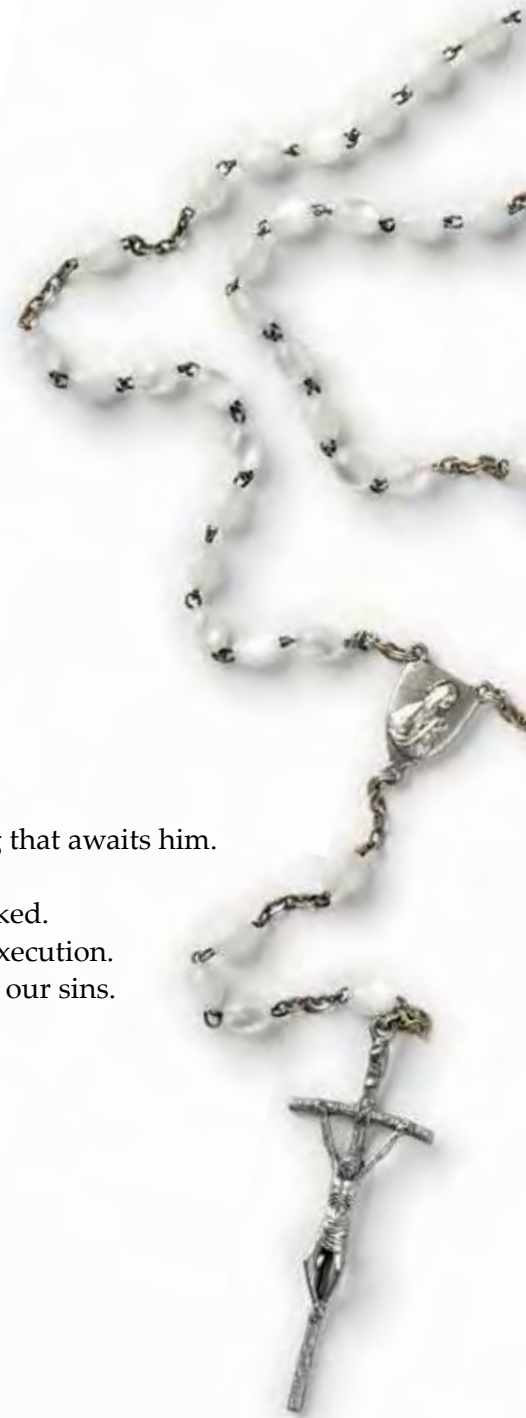
- The Annunciation: The angel Gabriel visits St. Mary, who says yes to conceiving Jesus.
- The Visitation: St. Mary visits her cousin St. Elizabeth, who greets her as the mother of the Lord.
- The Nativity: Jesus is born in Bethlehem.
- The Presentation in the Temple: The Holy Family brings the infant Jesus to be circumcised. The prophet Simeon recognizes the Messiah.
- The Finding of Jesus in the Temple: The boy Jesus goes missing, and his parents find him teaching in the Temple.

The Sorrowful Mysteries (Tuesdays and Fridays)

- The Agony in the Garden: Jesus sweats blood as he contemplates the suffering that awaits him.
- The Scourging at the Pillar: Jesus is brutally beaten by Roman soldiers.
- The Crowning with Thorns: Jesus is dressed up like a king, spat upon and mocked.
- The Carrying of the Cross: Jesus suffers as he carries the cross to his place of execution.
- The Crucifixion: Jesus is nailed to the cross and offers himself as a sacrifice for our sins.

The Luminous Mysteries (Thursday)

- The Baptism in the Jordan: St. John the Baptist baptizes Jesus. The voice of the Father calls him “my beloved Son.”
- The Wedding at Cana: Jesus performs his first public miracle and turns water into wine.
- The Proclamation of the Kingdom: Jesus calls us to repent and believe in the Good News.
- The Transfiguration: St. Peter, St. James, and St. John see a glimpse of Jesus’s glory.
- The Institution of the Eucharist: At the Last Supper, Jesus offers bread and wine and says they are his Body and Blood.



“The recitation of the Rosary is the most beautiful prayer we can offer to the Virgin Mary; it is a contemplation on the stages of the life of Jesus the Savior with his Mother Mary and is a weapon that protects us from evils and temptations... Never abandon the Rosary!”

– Pope Francis

The “Mary” Month of May – Honoring Our Blessed Mother

By Kathleen Maloney

Mary is honored by Catholics as being the Mother of God and as the Queen of Heaven. We read in Luke 1:43-44 of Elizabeth’s excitement as she cried out to Mary, “And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy.” As Catholics we too are joyful because, as the mother of the King of Kings, Mary is the Queen of Heaven and an important intercessor for us before the throne of God. As the month of May draws near, we should note that it has been designated by the Catholic Church as a special time to venerate Mary. Pope Paul VI in his 1965 encyclical, *On Prayers during May for Preservation of Peace* (Mense Maio, #1) wrote:

“For this is the month during which Christians, in their churches and their homes, offer the Virgin Mother more fervent and loving acts of homage and veneration; and it is the month in which a greater abundance of God’s merciful gifts comes down to us from our Mother’s throne.”

Taking time, particularly in May, to show love for Mary is a wonderful way to grow closer to her and enrich one’s faith. Some ideas to do this are praying a novena to her for a special intention, praying the Rosary, reading the scriptures, such as the infancy narrative (Lk 1:5-2:52), finding Jesus in the Temple (Lk 2:41-52), or the miracle at Cana (Jn 2:1-11). There are many books to read about Mary right in St. Raphael’s church library. A visit to the shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes in Euclid, Ohio, would make a fun adventure with family or friends. Also, a May altar can be crafted with a few flowers and a statue or picture of Our Lady placed on a table or shelf in the home. A parish-wide event which honors Mary is the

tradition of the May Crowning, which will be held in the St. Raphael church on Monday, May 15 at 7:00 p.m.

During May Crowning, beautiful Marian hymns are sung and the service culminates in the crowning of a statue of Mary with a wreath of flowers. The beauty of this occasion makes it an evening not to be missed or soon forgotten. This devotion, which helps us show our love and gratitude to this most holy of women, is a perfect way to create sacred memories with family, friends, and parishioners. It is an opportunity to meditate on Mary’s goodness and great love of God. May we follow her example and live our own lives in God’s most holy will.



The Coronation of Mary
Cornelis Schut (1597 - 1655)

Happy Easter!

V. Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.

R. For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.

V. Has risen, as he said, alleluia.

R. Pray for us to God, alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.

R. For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray. O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord.

Amen.

– *Regina Caeli* prayer



St. Raphael

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It's Time to Register for Vacation Bible School!

School will be out before you know it, and that means VBS is around the corner!

Who: Kids age 4 by June 30th, through entering Grade 4

What: STELLAR Totally Catholic Vacation Bible School! A fun space-based theme that teaches kids to Shine Jesus's Light!

When: July 24-28, from 9:30 am to Noon each day

Students in Grades 5-12 can apply as leaders.

Online registration at saintraphaelparish.com begins May 1st!



Liturgy Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 p.m. | **Sunday:** 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., Noon

Weekday Mass: M, T, W, F, 7:45 a.m. | M, T, Th, F, 9:15 a.m.

Confessions: Saturdays 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. | **Eucharistic Adoration:** Friday 10:00 a.m. - Saturday 4:00 p.m.