

Schedule for Dec. 25 - Dec. 31
MONDAY- 12/25 Is 52: 7-10, Heb 1: 1-6, Jn 1: 1-18 8:30am (St. R) - For those remembered with Christmas Flower Memorials 11:00am (St. J) - For those remembered with Christmas Flower Memorials
TUESDAY - 12/26 Acts 6: 8-10, 7: 54-59, Mt 10: 17-22 9:00am (St. R) - NO MASS
WEDNESDAY- 12/27 1 Jn 1: 1-4, Jn 20: 1a, 2-8 9:00am (St. R) - NO MASS
THURSDAY- 12/28 1 Jn 1: 5--2:2, Mt 2: 13-18 9:00am (St. J) - NO MASS
FRIDAY- 12/29 1 Jn 2: 3-11, Lk 2: 22-35 9:00am (St. J) - NO MASS
SATURDAY - 12/30 1 Jn 2: 12-17, Lk 2: 36-40 4:30pm (St. J) - James Phillips (Maureen) 7:00pm (St. R) - For the Living and Deceased parishioners of St. Raphael
SUNDAY- 12/31 Sir 3: 2-6, 12-14, Heb 11: 8, 11-12, 17-19, Lk 2: 22-40 8:00am - TV Mass for the Homebound from Gaylord - Fox 32 (Cable Channel 3) 8:30am (St. R) - For the Living and Deceased parishioners of St. Raphael 9:30am (St. J) - No Faith Formation Class 11:00am (St. J) - For the Living and Deceased parishioners of St. Joseph

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH
Mass Times: Thursday & Friday, 9:00am, Saturday, 4:30pm, Sunday, 11:00am

FAITH FORMATION

The next Faith Formation & RCIA class will be Sunday, January 7th. Faith Formation and RCIA classes starts promptly at 9:30am PLEASE!!!

Please remember the faith formation children are going to have a hand bell performance at the Christmas Eve Mass starting at 4:20pm. Sophie would like the children to arrive downstairs at 4:00pm.

2018 BIBLE STUDY

Please plan to join your friends for **Matthew: The King and His Kingdom** is an exciting study that explores the life and mission of Jesus as recorded in the Gospel. Matthew demonstrates how the promises and prophecies of the Old Testament are fulfilled in Christ, who establishes a New Law and inaugurates the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. Participants will see Jesus as the awaited Messiah who relives the life and struggles of Israel to become the faithful and victorious King. Set in the rich context of Jesus' Jewish culture, this study will help participants understand who Jesus is and what his life and teachings mean for us today.

This study will begin the first week of the new year on Wednesdays at St. Raphael and Fridays at St. Joseph following morning Mass. The 24 lessons will be divided into Spring and Fall sessions. To sign up call the office at 231-889-4254.

UP COMING EVENTS

- **St. Joseph Masses**, Saturday, December 23rd, 4:30pm, Sunday, December 24th, 11:00am (**This is for your Sunday Obligation**)
- **St. Joseph/St. Raphael Christmas Eve Mass**, Sunday, December 24th, 4:30pm at St. Joseph Church (**This is for your Christmas Obligation**)
- **St. Joseph Christmas Day Mass**, Monday, December 25th, 11:00am (**This is for your Christmas Obligation**)

Eternal rest grant Unto

John Martuch
Rose Ann Maue

and may Perpetual Light Shine upon them and may they rest in peace.



ST. JOSEPH'S STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

May Our Lord bless us through our generosity

ENVELOPE OFFERTORY	\$ 2,032.00
LOOSE OFFERTORY	\$ 278.05
CHILDREN'S OFFERTORY	\$ 2.50
DONATION	\$ 24.81
STIPEND	\$ 40.00
TOTAL	\$ 2,377.36
BUILDING ENV.	\$ -----
D & L FUND-BLG.	\$29,767.67
Prayer Requests	61.00

Richie Anderson, June Bartlett, Kyleigh Borah, Mary Lynn Burchard, Anna Charlich, Martha Dirksen, Louis Fortin, Addy Hollifield, Tammy Holmes, Dennis Knoche, Joyce LaFleur, Florence Levandowski, Bonnie Levandowski, William Lotz, Irene Lyman, George Macko, John David Martuch, Julie Miller, Nielsen Family, Nancy Satal, Mary Steen, Kay Thompson, Albert Valencia, Barbara Warner

Happy Birthday!!

- 12/25** - Maureen Barry, Janice Haase, Val Long, Robert Porter
- 12/28** - Duane Anderson, Sheila Martuch
- 12/29** - Jacob Kequom

Happy Anniversary!!

- 12/27** - Dr/Mrs. Ed Barlan
- 12/28** - M/M John Harwell
- 12/30** - M/M Peter Miller

The parish office will be closed Monday, December 25, 2017 through Monday, January 1, 2018. We will reopen the office on Tuesday, January 2, 2018
If the schools are closed there will be NO MASS held on that day.



ST. JOSEPH'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 30 & 31	
Saturday, 4:30pm	Sunday, 11:00am
Lector - Catherine Noggle Body of Christ - Beth Klajda Precious Blood - Kathryn Nacco & Dale Mrosko Hospitality - Peter Bologna & Dennis Knoche Altar Servers - Sandra Bologna & Beverly Knoche	Lector - Bob Sidor Body of Christ - Linda Showalter Precious Blood - Maureen Phillips & Lisa Sidor Hospitality - Peaches Sanovic & Tom Greve Altar Servers - Veronica & Elizabeth Sidor

ST. RAPHAEL CHURCH
Mass Times: Tuesday & Wednesday, 9:00am, Saturday, 7:00pm, Sunday, 8:30am

**ST. RAPHAEL'S
 STEWARDSHIP OF
 TREASURE**

ST. RAPHAEL CCW NEWS

If you would like to remember your loved one with a plaque on the Memory Board, call the office at 231-889-4254. APPROXIMATE cost is \$20.00

There will be **no CCW Meetings** until **March 2018.**

Happy Birthday!!

- 12/23 - Michael Scott
- 12/24 - David Chmielewski
- 12/29 - Florence Smith
- 12/31 - Joseph Rebman

UP COMING EVENTS

- **St. Raphael Masses**, Saturday, December 23rd, 7:00pm, Sunday, December 24th, 8:30am (**This is for your Sunday Obligation**)
- **St. Joseph/St. Raphael Christmas Eve Mass**, Sunday, December 24th, 4:30pm at St. Joseph Church (**This is for your Christmas Obligation**)
- **St. Raphael Christmas Day Mass, Monday**, December 25th, 8:30am (**This is for your Christmas Obligation**)

THANK YOU

THANK YOU to all the people from our parish that helped to make our Christmas Bazaar a success - one of them was there everyday with us: Lilly Saap who helps with every need of the church and lucky us - we are blessed with her dedication. The other angels know who they are and so does God, the ones who setup and take down, the ones who buy, and the ones who donate, all for the good of our church.

And as you put away this years decorations, please set aside your unwanted items for next year, it sure helps with the Winter heating bills.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Wishing you A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

May Our Lord bless us through our generosity

ENVELOPE OFFERTORY	\$	780.00
LOOSE OFFERTORY	\$	477.00
V. LTS	\$	17.00
COFFEE	\$	23.00
FUEL	\$	50.00
DONATION	\$	10,000.00
FLOWERS	\$	48.00
TOTAL	\$	11,395.00
BUILDING	\$	30.00

Prayer Requests

Marty Bailey, Dennis Daldine, DeVoll Family, Bill Dowd, Mary Evans, William Hogarth, Karen Ling, Mike Ling, Tammy May, Kelly Miller, Olivia Miller, Kenneth O. Milliron, Dale Moody, Kelli Sattler, Chad Schualer, Albert Valencia, Don Walston, Gary Willis



**Your Pastor
 and parish staff**

wish all members of the St. Raphael/St. Joseph
 a very blessed and joyful
 Christmas Season

WELCOME

We welcome back all former parishioners who have joined with families and friends to celebrate this beautiful season. May your time together be pleasant and memorable.

We also welcome all guests who are able to join with us for this celebration of the Lord's birth.

AN INVITATION

To Catholics who occasionally participate with fellow believers, we invite you to regularly share in the celebration of the Eucharist wherever you may live and work. May the Prince of Peace show us the way to create peace in our own lives and in the lives of all with whom we have contact.

ST. RAPHAEL'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 30 & 31

Saturday, 7:00pm	Sunday, 8:30am
Lector - Gerry Kastl Body of Christ - Kim O'Connor Precious Blood - Cindy Saarm & Janet Hobart Altar Servers - Bob Saul	Lector - Carlina Breitner Body of Christ - Flo Smith Precious Blood - Bob Saul & Pat Mullen Altar Servers - Rose Clous & Maria Saul



Please pray for all service men and women who are serving our country.

Mark J. Debano, Jr., OD LT, MSC, USN, 2 Lt. Daniel J. Debano, Engineer, MIARNG, Sgt. Chris DeVoll, Army, Spc. Renada DeVoll, Army, Charles Draeger, USAF Special Unit, MIARNG, , Coast Guard, Navy, AIC Hannah R. Janicki, SFC Jeremy A. Kott, Army, Jay Long, Mike Meyers, Air Force, Adam O'Neill, Army, Capt. Courtney Pierce, RN, Army, 2nd Lt.

Karina Pierce-Pingel, Army, Sgt. Benjamin Pingel, Army, Sgt. First Class Philip Sedlar, Jr., Andrew Saul, Navy, Adam Schuessler, Army, USAF, Austin Soller, Navy, Sgt. Dylan Somsel, Capt. Kent Turner, Army, Yeoman John Tucker, CG, Yeoman Sarah Tucker, CG, Daniel Tanner, Navy

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior Amen.

If you know of someone serving our country and would like a his/her name printed in our military corner please call the parish office or put their name in the collection basket and mark it military corner. Thank you.

The Ladies Guild will have **NO MEETINGS FOR JANUARY, FEBRUARY & MARCH 2018. ALL women of the parish are invited to join us when we meet again!! Come and meet your fellow parishioners. Our church needs your helping hands, and the good ideas in your heads. Need a ride? Call the church secretary and she will contact us to help. **SEE YOU THERE!!!** The St. Joseph Ladies' Guild new project will be saving Family Fare receipts that may be put in the same box in the entry. When you go to Family Fare all you have to do is sign-up for their reward card. We are collecting General Mills box tops for education. When you are cutting out the box top for education we need the General Mills Box Top for Education not the save 25-75%.

ST. JOSEPH'S COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY: The next month's Food Pantry will **January 26, 2018** beginning at **10 a.m.** *Your financial support is appreciated and encouraged.* Every dollar you contribute goes toward purchase of food and household items.

Stewardship by the Book - In the first reading God promises King David that his house and his kingdom will endure forever. It is through Mary's "Yes" - "I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you say." - that the promise finds fulfillment.

Family Perspective - QUESTION: What do you call a family which began with an unmarried pregnant teen and had a twelve-year-old son who ran away from home and was eventually executed as a criminal?

ANSWER: HOLY! Two lessons in today's gospel: (1) No matter what is happening in your family, "The Lord is with you." (2) "Do not be afraid" for "nothing is impossible with God.

Vocation View - Every person who has ever born a child, and every person who has freely vowed away this honor, helps to bring Jesus Christ into this world again. Can you say: "Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord."

Promise to Protect; Pledge to Heal - In an effort to protect all children and to promote healing, the Diocese of Gaylord encourages victims of child abuse or neglect to report the matter. In fact, many professionals are required by Michigan State law to report suspected abuse or neglect of a child or minor. Individuals should contact their local office of the Department of Human Services. If an allegation involves sexual misconduct of a minor by clergy or any employee of the Diocese of Gaylord, even if it is in the past, individuals may also contact the Diocesan Victim Assistant Coordinator, Larry LaCross at 989-705-9010.

See You in Dublin! - Join the Diocese of Gaylord for a pilgrimage to Ireland for the 2018 World Meeting of Families! This family-friendly pilgrimage will depart from Detroit on Sunday, August 19, 2018, and travel to religious and historical sites in Ireland before reaching Dublin for the World Meeting of Families. We will depart for Detroit on Tuesday, August 28. Cost for the trip is \$4,599 and includes round-trip airfare, registration and entrance to World Meeting of Families events, daily Mass, tips and gratuities for tour guides, land transportation via private deluxe motor coach, all listed entrance fees, lodging in 3 and 4 star hotels, breakfast daily, and 4 dinners. For more information, visit www.dioceseofgaylord.org or contact Wayne Winter at 989.732.5147.



**ST. JOSEPH'S/RAPHAEL'S
CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

CHRISTMAS EVE

4:30 pm @ St. Joseph Church

CHRISTMAS DAY

8:30 am @ St. Raphael Church

11:00am @ St. Joseph Church

**This is for your Christmas
obligation!!**



Christmas Blessing

Dear Lord,

We thank You for being here with us as we celebrate this cherished holiday to honor Your precious, sacred birth.

We recognize and acknowledge that all the material pleasures we enjoy today,

the food, the gifts, and everything else come from You, Lord, through your grace, your compassion, and Your love for us.

Help us throughout the year to always strive to be worthy of all the blessings You have given us, our family, our friends and our comforts, by living our lives in Your will according to Your Holy Word.

We pray that You will bless this food and everyone at this table.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Snowbirds, are you getting ready to fly south for the winter?

Consider adding these to your to-do list before you go:

- Stay on top of parish news - share your email address so you can receive the bulletin.
- Help us keep the lights and heat on - make your tithing easier and ask your bank to set up a regular electronic fund transfer to St. Joseph.
- Inform the parish office when you will be leaving if you are a Eucharistic minister, lector, usher, greeter, etc. so you will not be scheduled. Thank you and safe travels!!!