

April 2017

Saint Raphael



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

“An Incredible Opportunity for People to Experience Culture and Music”

The Apollo’s Fire Concert at St. Raphael on Sunday, April 30

Jeannette Sorrell, Apollo’s Fire Artistic Director, is recognized internationally as a leading creative voice among early music conductors. She has been credited by the U.K.’s *BBC Music Magazine* for forging “a vibrant, life-affirming approach to the re-making of early music... a seductive vision of musical authenticity.”

Hailed as “one of the world’s finest baroque specialists” (*St. Louis Post-Dispatch*), Sorrell was one of the youngest students ever accepted to the prestigious conducting courses of both the Aspen and Tanglewood Music Festivals. She studied conducting under Robert Spano, Roger Norrington and Leonard Bernstein, and harpsichord with Gustav

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The members of Apollo’s Fire

“This concert is the culmination of our 25th anniversary, so you might say it has been 25 years in the making. We are excited to be back at St. Raphael for our final concert of our anniversary celebration. This promises to be an incredible opportunity for people to experience culture and music at the highest level near at hand.” – Matt Flynn, Apollo’s Fire Marketing Manager and Assistant General Manager

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Leonhardt in Amsterdam. She won both First Prize and the Audience Choice Award in the 1991 Spivey International Harpsichord Competition, competing against over 70 harpsichordists from Europe, Israel, the U.S., and the Soviet Union.

Sorrell founded Apollo's Fire in 1992. Since then, she and the ensemble have built one of the largest audiences of any baroque orchestra in North America. She has led Apollo's Fire in sold-out concerts at London's BBC Proms



Jeannette Sorrell, Apollo's Fire Artistic Director

The Apollo's Fire Concert

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and London's Wigmore Hall, Madrid's Royal Theatre (Teatro Real), the Grand Théâtre de l'Opéra in Bordeaux, the Aldeburgh Festival (UK), the Tanglewood Festival, Boston's Early Music Festival, the Aspen Music Festival, the Library of Congress, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York), among others.

Now, she and her unique orchestra are coming to St. Raphael. It affords an extraordinary cultural event to our parishioners and our community. From the dedication of our beautiful church two years ago, we have strived to be not just a place of worship and the home to our parish community, but also a place to offer events and attractions like this to our entire local community.

Apollo's Fire, the Cleveland Baroque Orchestra, performs classical music on period instruments. Matt Flynn serves as the Marketing Manager and the Assistant General Manager of Apollo's Fire.

"This concert is the culmination of our 25th anniversary, so you might say it has been 25 years in the making," Matt says. "We are excited to be back at St. Raphael for our

final concert of our anniversary celebration. This promises to be an incredible opportunity for people to experience culture and music at the highest level near at hand."

Apollo's Fire has assembled more than 40 of the finest period-instrument specialists of North America for this concert. This is a rare and revelatory opportunity to hear this music performed on period instruments.

"Our program for the concert is all Beethoven," Matt says. "Beethoven's epic sense of struggle emerges with fresh intensity as Jeannette Sorrell leads his revolutionary *Egmont Overture* and *Fifth Symphony*. In addition, internationally renowned violinist Noah Bendix-Balgley (the young American concertmaster of the Berlin Philharmonic) makes his period-instrument debut, bringing lyrical transcendence to Beethoven's beloved Violin Concerto."

The concert begins at 4:30 p.m., but there is an added benefit and offering for those with tickets. At 3:30 p.m. Harvard professor Dr. Thomas Forrest Kelly will speak on "Beethoven's Vienna: When the *Fifth* Was New." Tickets range in price from \$10 (student tickets near the back of the church) to premium tickets at \$77.

For information or to purchase tickets visit the orchestra web site at <https://apollosfire.org>. This is a special day for St. Raphael as our church and our community will be the centerpiece of the classical music world on April 30. Invite your friends to join with you in taking advantage of this occasion.

A Letter From Our Pastor

Give Thanks to the Lord, It Is Right and Just

My Dear Friends in Christ,

Every time I prepare my monthly letter to you in this newsletter, I am reminded how blessed I am. Being a priest truly is a blessing. While the job is not always easy — a pastor has many responsibilities — the rewards are equally humbling.

As we complete our preparations and then share in our celebrations of the Triduum and Easter, I am also prompted to think about the holiest things I do. By far, the holiest is celebrating Mass, and especially consecrating the holy bread and wine so Christ is present among us. The very word “consecration” literally means “association with the sacred.” To have that duty is incredible. I have never taken it for granted, and although it may appear at times to be somewhat automatic, it never is for me.

Almost all of us are familiar with the Mass, and with what we do and say leading up to the high point — the Eucharist. But I think we must guard against becoming too casual in our responses and what we say. That is what I work to avoid, but I believe you need to work just as diligently to make sure that you are listening, hearing, and being aware of what you are saying. For us as Catholics,

the Mass is the most important sacred act in the Church.

I suppose I could write a whole series of letters or articles on the meaning of everything we say and do at Mass, but I was thinking of one exchange in particular during the Liturgy of the Eucharist. It is something we may say in sort of a habitual way, but I firmly believe each of us must truly consider what we are saying.

I say to you, “Let us give thanks to the Lord our God,” and you respond, “It is right and just.” Think about what that means, because it is very much at the heart of stewardship. I am saying we need to thank God, show gratitude for everything we are and everything with which we are gifted — and you, at least in words, acknowledge that doing that is exactly what we need to do. The Mass is filled with statements and exchanges of that sort, and I would ask that we really think about what they truly mean.

Even the simple exchange between the Eucharistic Minister and you at the actual reception of the Host is heavy with meaning. We say, “The Body of Christ,” and you reply “Amen.” In that instance, “Amen”



means “Yes, I do believe this is Jesus.” Like myself, you are blessed. Sometimes we just need to realize it. Happy Easter!

May God bless and keep you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Tim". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Fr. Tim Gareau,
Pastor

I am saying we need to thank God, show gratitude for everything we are and everything with which we are gifted — and you, at least in words, acknowledge that doing that is exactly what we need to do.

Bringing Light

The Holy Chrism Mass at the Cathedral

At 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 11, the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist will be filled with the faithful from across the diocese, as well as Bishop Daniel E. Thomas, current Diocesan Administrator, and the priests of the Diocese of Cleveland for the annual Chrism Mass. This Mass is celebrated in every diocese and archdiocese throughout the world either during or near to Holy Week (the following Thursday is Holy Thursday). There are basically two purposes for this annual High Mass. At the Chrism Mass, the bishop blesses two oils – the oil of catechumens (*oleum catechumenorum* or *oleum sanctorum*), the oil of the infirm (*oleum infirmorum*), and consecrates a third oil, holy chrisem (*sacrum chrisma*) – which will be used in the administration of the sacraments throughout the diocese for the following year. In addition, diocesan and religious order priests renew their vows.

Anointing with oils has been a practice in the Church since Old Testament times. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says about holy oils, “Anointing with oil has all these meanings in the sacramental life. The pre-baptismal anointing with the oil of catechumens signifies cleansing and strengthening; the anointing of the sick expresses healing and comfort. The post-baptismal anointing with sacred chrisem in Confirmation and ordination is the sign of consecration. By Confirmation Christians, that is, those who are anointed, share more completely in the mission of Jesus Christ and the fullness of the Holy Spirit with which He is filled, so that their lives may give off ‘the aroma of Christ’” (CCC 1294).

Many of us Catholics have already received some of the benefits given through these holy oils – namely, in the ceremonies of Baptism and in the conferring



Ambry at St. Raphael containing the sacred oils and chrisem

of the Sacrament of Confirmation; and we hope someday to obtain further graces through them in the Sacrament of the Sick (formerly called extreme unction). And yet, it may be that we know little about them. Moreover, few of us are able to be present when the solemn blessing and consecration of them takes place in a cathedral church.

The whole concept of “anointing” has a strong Church tradition. Throughout the Bible, various references indicate the importance of olive oil in daily life. Oil was used in cooking, particularly in the making of bread, that basic food substance for nourishment; as a fuel for lamps; and as a healing agent in medicine. Moreover, with oil the Jews anointed the head of a guest as a sign of welcome, beautified one’s appearance, and prepared a body for burial.



Many of us Catholics have already received some of the benefits given through these holy oils – namely, in the ceremonies of Baptism and in the conferring of the Sacrament of Confirmation; and we hope someday to obtain further graces through them in the Sacrament of the Sick (formerly called extreme unction).

at to Darkness of St. John the Evangelist, April 11, 2017



Bishop Emeritus Richard Lennon blessing oils at the 2016 Chrism Mass

Sacred Scripture also attests to the spiritual symbolism of oil. Psalm 45:7 reads, "You love justice and hate wickedness; therefore, God your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your fellow kings," signifying the special designation from God and the joy of being His servant. Moreover, to be "the anointed" of the Lord indicated receiving a special vocation from the Lord and the empowerment with the Holy Spirit to fulfill that vocation: Jesus, echoing the words of Isaiah, spoke, "The spirit of the Lord is upon me; therefore, He has anointed me" (Lk 4:18). St. Paul emphasized this point as well: "God is the one Who firmly establishes us along with you in Christ; it is He Who anointed us and has sealed us, thereby depositing the first

payment, the Spirit in our hearts" (2 Cor 1:21). Therefore, the symbolism of oil is rich sanctification, healing, strengthening, beautification, dedication, consecration, and sacrifice.

At the Chrism Mass, the bishop will bless or consecrate three different oils: the oil of catechumens, for adult and infant Baptisms; the oil of the sick, for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick; and the oil of chrisms, a fragranced oil consecrated only by the bishop for Baptisms, Confirmations, ordination, and the consecration of sacred spaces. After Mass, each priest receives a sufficient amount of all three oils to be used at parishes, schools, hospitals, and other places where they may be assigned and functioning.

In addition, the priests renew

their vows at this Mass. The bishop will ask the priests as a group, "Beloved sons, in remembrance of that day when Christ our Lord conferred His priesthood on His Apostles, and on us, are you resolved to renew, in the presence of your bishop and God's holy people, the promises you once made?" to which the priests respond in unison, "I am."

The Chrism Mass is under the purview of the Diocesan Office of Worship. All are welcome to attend. Please consider attending this Mass as part of your Lenten journey. For more information, please contact the Director of Worship for the diocese, Ms. Jeanne Marie Miles at 216-696-6525.

"We would encourage anyone who wishes to attend the Chrism Mass to come," Ms. Miles says. "Our only warning is that because of the crowd, you cannot save seats for others."



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Celebrating the Easter Vigil, the “Mother of All Vigils”

As the sun wanes on Holy Saturday, the universal community of the faithful will gather for the Easter Vigil, the pinnacle of the liturgical year. As sung in the *Exsultet*, the Easter Proclamation, “this is the night.” This is the night when Christ triumphed over sin and death and “rose victorious from the underworld.”

During the Easter Vigil, the Church awaits and then celebrates Christ’s resurrection with a sacred liturgy that draws upon rich symbolic traditions to highlight our transition from death to life, from darkness to light.

The very atmosphere in the church space as we gather on the evening of Holy Saturday prepares us for the Easter Vigil. Tangible signs throughout the church represent Christ’s entombment. The holy water fonts stand empty, the tabernacle lies devoid of Christ’s presence and the sanctuary lamp is fittingly extinguished.

According to the Church’s rubrics for the liturgical year, the vigil should take place during the night, and its unique four-part structure sets the celebration apart from all other liturgies.

With the church shrouded in darkness, the celebration begins with the Service of Light, during which the faithful gather outside around a blazing fire that draws the community together.

During the Service of Light, the Paschal candle, the central sacramental of the Easter Vigil liturgy, is brought forward. The candle represents Christ, the light of the world, and the faithful process into the church following the candle, which brightens the darkened space. At this time, the candles held by the community are lit from the Paschal candle, and the Easter Proclamation is sung.

Following the Service of Light, the Liturgy of the

Word is proclaimed, and passages from the Old and New Testament show God’s intervention throughout salvation history. We sing the *Alleluia* for the first time since the commencement of the Lenten season.

Then, in the Liturgy of Baptism, we welcome the candidates and catechumens who have prepared in a particular way throughout the Lenten season to enter the Church. Alongside the new members of the community, we renew our own baptismal promises during this holy night.

Lastly, in the Liturgy of the Eucharist, Christ – in His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity – becomes present in the consecrated bread and wine. The Blessed Sacrament is once again in the tabernacle, and the sanctuary lamp is illuminated.

As we anticipate the Easter Vigil, the “turning point of the Triduum,” we can prepare ourselves for this sacred liturgy by renewing our Lenten resolutions and our desire for complete conversion to Christ. We can read the Liturgy of Word for the Easter Vigil, meditating on Christ’s loving and powerful actions on the behalf of His beloved people.

With the transition from the 40 days of Lent into the 50 days of the Easter season, we can find small daily ways to celebrate this time of rejoicing. Perhaps we will light a symbolic candle each evening, welcoming the light of Christ, or decorate our domestic churches with signs of the Resurrection from white linens to spring greenery.

Throughout these blessed weeks of the Easter season, the Paschal candle is illuminated at the beginning of each liturgy as a tangible reminder of our ongoing faith journey and our daily turning from the darkness of sin to the light of Christ.



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“Back on Track” With the Faith

The St. Raphael Catholics Coming Home Program

For the 12th year, our parish will conduct a series called Catholics Coming Home on seven consecutive Wednesday evenings, from April 19 through May 31 beginning at 7 p.m. and normally lasting about 90 minutes.

These sessions are for non-practicing, inactive Catholics who might be interested in returning to the Church, although they are open to all who might be interested in a topic offered and discussed. Catholics Coming Home sessions provide the opportunity to ask questions and learn – or re-learn – about the faith in a welcoming support-group format.

The program was instituted by the St. Raphael Evangelization Committee in 2006 and has continued to receive positive feedback from those who attend and participate. In fact, several former participants are now members of the seven-person Catholics Coming Home team.

One former attendee who is now part of the team is Matthew Klenovic.

“I went through the Catholics Coming Home Program in 2012,” Matthew says. “When I initially went, it was with some hesitation and more than a bit of anxiety. I think when your faith has wandered and at times not been a part of your life, there is a fear of all sorts of things. My searching for faith never stopped, but there is no question the program got me back on track. Now, I am part of the team which offers it. It was for me and continues to be a faith journey.”

The program is based upon a program called Catholics Come Home – learn more at www.catholicscomehome.org – which was established more than 30 years ago. We

are all called by Christ to be disciples and to evangelize. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states, “Lay people also fulfill their prophetic mission by evangelization, ‘that is, the proclamation of Christ by word and the testimony of life.’ For lay people, ‘this evangelization... acquires a specific property and peculiar efficacy because it is accomplished in the ordinary circumstances of the world’” (CCC 905). In other words, living as a good Catholic is a form of evangelization.

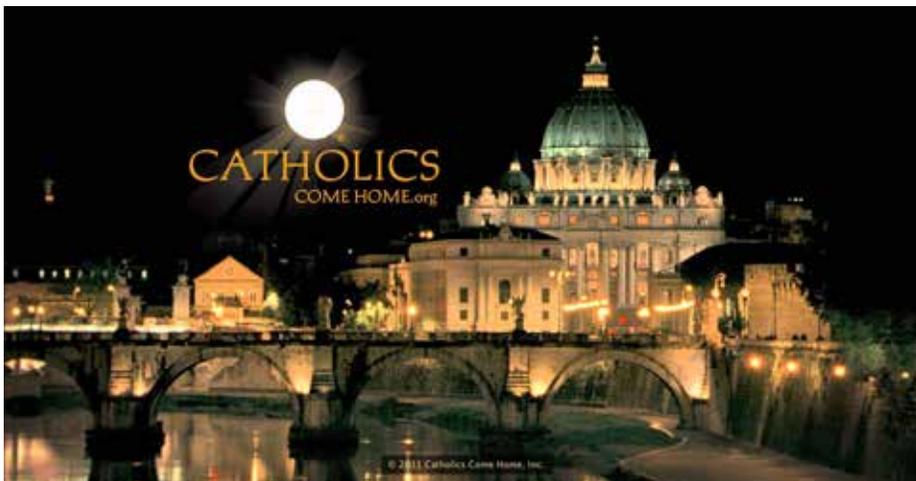
“Our meetings follow a general format which opens with prayer, followed by a presentation on a particular topic, followed by discussion and questions,” Matthew says. “However, although we do have a plan of discussion topics, we are an adaptive group. That means that those attending may wish to explore something else or look more deeply into something, and we are prepared to make adjustments accordingly.”

The plan for the seven weeks is as follows:

- April 19 – Welcome and general information
- April 26 – Our Journey
- May 3 – Reconciliation
- May 10 – The Creed
- May 17 – Sacrament Overview
- May 24 – The Mass
- May 31 – Next Steps for Participants

All sessions are held at St. Raphael in the Raphael Center. For information or to indicate an interest call one of the coordinators – Mrs. Annette DeGidio, 440-250-9028; Mrs. Dean Brennan, 440-892-2877; or Deacon Larry Gregg, 440-871-1100 ext. 134.

“I am so glad I took the risk and went five years ago,” Matthew says. “In fact, I was so struck by the power, the information, and the sense of togetherness I found, that I invited other members of my family to come also – and some did, even some who were practicing Catholics. Doing this is important for the Church and for St. Raphael, but more important, it can mean so much for those who decide to participate. We encourage people to come, and we encourage our



St. Raphael

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"Back on Track" With the Faith *continued from page 7*

parishioners to make others aware of Catholics Coming Home."

G.K. Chesterton once wrote, "The difficulty in explaining 'why I am a Catholic' is that there are ten thousand reasons, but really only one: Catholicism is true." And the eminent Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen once said, "I do not think people really hate the Catholic Church, but there are millions who hate what they think the Catholic Church is." Come and learn what the Catholic Church really is.



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. | Saturday, 8:30 a.m.

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