

**GOD**

so loved the world  
that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who  
believes in him might not  
perish but might have

**ETERNAL LIFE.**

*John 3:16*

**THE MOST HOLY TRINITY** June 15, 2014

# St. Raphael Church

525 Dover Center Road • Bay Village, Ohio • 44140

www.saintraphaelparish.com

Parish Office: 440-871-1100 • Parish Office Fax: 440-899-2911 • Rectory: 440-871-1100

School Office: 440-871-6760 • School Office Fax: 440-871-1358

## Pastoral Staff

Rev. Timothy W. Gareau..... *Pastor*  
 Rev. Ryan Cubera .....*Parochial Vicar*  
 Rev. Al Krupp.....*In Residence*  
 Rev. Mr. Larry Gregg..... *Deacon*  
 Dr. Andy Kereky *Director of Spiritual Development*  
 Terri Telepak.....*Pastoral Associate*  
 Ann Miller..... *School Principal*  
 Mark Cunningham..... *Director of Stewardship*  
 William Toler *Director of Liturgy & Adult Education*  
 Maureen Mayer..... *Administrative Director*  
 Amy Lashutka.....*Director of Youth Ministry*  
 Tish Bush..... *Office Manager*  
 Kathy Witmer..... *Administration Secretary*  
 Clare Blake.....*Bookkeeper*  
 Ashley Klug.....*Religious Ed. Secretary*

## Parish Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday ..... 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
 Friday..... 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
 Saturday..... 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
 Sunday .....10:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

## Pre-School Religion - Ages 3-4-5/Kindergarten

Meet on Sundays 9:30-10:30 a.m. Sept-May.

## Parish School of Religion

Grades 1-8 meet on Mondays 4:15 - 5:30 p.m. or 6:30 - 7:45 p.m.

## Mass Schedule

### Saturday Vigil:

4:30 & 7:00 p.m.

### Sunday:

7:30, 9:30, 11:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m.

### Weekdays:

7:45 a.m. M-T-W-F  
 9:15 a.m. M-T-TH-F  
 8:30 a.m. Saturday

### Holy Day:

Please consult bulletin

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Every Friday from 10:00 a.m. to Saturday afternoon at 4:00 p.m., Raphael Center Chapel.

**Confessions:** Saturdays 3:00-4:00 p.m. Any other time by request.

**Baptism:** Instruction Program required for parents. Held on first Sunday of month from 2:00-3:00 p.m. Baptisms on remaining Sundays of month at 2:00 p.m.

**First Communion / First Penance / Confirmation:** Preparation program required for parents and child.

**Marriage:** Preparation of couple according to Diocesan norms required. Call one of the priests at least 6 months prior to marriage.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Anytime upon request - call one of the priests. Communal anointing in October on Sunday closest to Feast of St. Luke (October 18).

## Cluster Parishes

## +One family in Christ+

**St. Joseph Church** 32929 Lake Rd., Avon Lake  
 (440)933-3152  
 Saturday Vigil Mass 4:30 p.m.  
 Sunday Masses 8:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.  
 Weekdays Monday 6:30p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 7:30a.m., Friday 8:30 a.m.  
 Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday 3:15-4:00 p.m. Monday 5:30-6:15 p.m.  
 Eucharistic Adoration Every Tuesday 8:00a.m.-8:00p.m. First Fridays 9:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m. Saturday

**Holy Spirit Church** 410 Lear Rd., Avon Lake  
 (440)933-3777 (440)871-8157 (Cleveland Line)  
 Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00 p.m.  
 Sunday Masses 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m.  
 Weekdays 8:30 a.m. (*Chapel of the Holy Family*)  
 Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturdays 3:30-4:30 p.m.  
 Eucharistic Adoration Every Monday 12:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.

## THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

June 15, 2014

*"God did not send the Son to condemn the world, but to give it abundant life."*

### MASSSES for the WEEK

#### Weekday **Monday, June 16**

7:45 AM *Charles Thill, Birthday*

9:15 AM *Andrew Hlusko, Anniversary*

#### Weekday **Tuesday, June 17**

7:45 AM *Paula Fox, Anniversary*

9:15 AM *Jean Schriener*

#### Weekday **Wednesday, June 18**

7:45 AM *Eugene Moorman, Birthday*

#### Weekday **Thursday, June 19**

9:15 AM *Frank, Genevieve and Annette Abramczyk*

#### Weekday **Friday, June 20**

7:45 AM *Mary Cerasi*

9:15 AM *Betty Spencer*

#### St. Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious **Saturday, June 21**

8:30 AM *Paul Minnich, Anniversary*

1:30 PM *Wirfel-Musca Wedding*

#### Vigil: The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ

4:30 PM *Deceased members of*

*Kundrath-Petrilla Families*

7:00 PM *Dale Brooks*

#### The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ **Sunday, June 22**

7:30 AM *John & Elizabeth Kirchner, Anniversary*

9:30 AM *Adam Dills*

11:00 AM *Paula Fox*

12:30 PM *Alice Gillihan*

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Kgs 21:1-16; Ps 5:2-3ab, 4b-7;  
Mt 5:38-42

Tuesday: 1 Kgs 21:17-29; Ps 51:3-6ab, 11, 16;  
Mt 5:43-48

Wednesday: 2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14; Ps 31:20, 21, 24;  
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Sir 48:1-14; Ps 97:1-7; Mt 6:7-15

Friday: 2 Kgs 11:1-4, 9-18, 20; Ps 132:11-14, 17-18;  
Mt 6:19-23

Saturday: 2 Chr 24:17-25; Ps 89:4-5, 29-34;  
Mt 6:24-34

Sunday: Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20;  
1 Cor 10:16-17; Jn 6:51-58

**Deadline for bulletin is noon on Friday for the following week.** Articles can be dropped off in the Parish Office or e-mailed to: [tbush@saintraphaelparish.com](mailto:tbush@saintraphaelparish.com). If you are interested in placing an advertisement in our bulletin, please contact J.S. Paluch Co. 1-800-945-6629. **PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS-THEY MAKE THE BULLETIN POSSIBLE!**



Altar Servers

### For weekend of:

**June 21-22**

4:30 PM DeSalvo-Simoson-Betsill-Flanagan  
7:00 PM TBD  
7:30 AM McCormick-Lawrence-Sarko-McIntyre  
9:30 AM Karnatz-Ford-Ellis  
11:00 AM Magvas-Aquilla-Legeay-Malley  
12:30 PM Davis-Gadd-McGowan-Hack-Hack

*Rest in Peace*

SEAN SULLIVAN, nephew of Mona Rossi; MARY KATHLEEN ZEMKA; TERRY KELLEY, husband of Molly; TIM HESS, husband of Theresa, and MARGARET BUMBLIS, sister of Ellie Small (Tony), died this past week. May they rest in peace.

### WEDDING BANNERS

III Natalie Turek and Joe Palcko  
III Kathleen Musca and Matt Wirfel  
II Kali Dye and Scott Sullivan

### ST. RAPHAEL PRAYER MINISTRY

prays daily for specific requests. We pray in our own homes, on our own time and in our own ways. Requests are distributed by phone-chain or e-mail. If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, or to join this ministry, please call Joanne Hout (835-0169) or email Karen Mackin at: [kmom41@wowway.com](mailto:kmom41@wowway.com).

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Can you give one hour a week that is just for Jesus, an hour when you draw close to Him and He fills you with His love and peace? Come to Eucharistic Adoration! The best way to make sure you get there is to have a regular, weekly scheduled time. We need someone to come regularly on **Fridays from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.**, and someone on **Saturday afternoons from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.** Call Melissa (871-1476) if you want to experience the blessings that God wants to give you through a Holy Hour with Jesus.

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION RAPHAEL CENTER CHAPEL



Jesus' appeal to His Apostles in the garden is His appeal to us today: *"Could you not watch one hour with Me?"* (Mt 26:40)

Adoration takes place in the chapel in the Raphael Center every week from 10:00 AM on Friday, through the night until 4:00PM on Saturday.

Introduce your children to this beautiful devotion by bringing them on Friday at 3:30 p.m. for 20 minutes of guided prayers and songs.

Jesus is waiting for you every week. Come and be with Him. (Park by the Parish Office or Post Office.)





## JOBSEEKERS



St. Raphael Job Seekers is hosting “*How to Find a Job Today*.” This seminar will be presented Saturday June 28 from 10 a.m. – noon in the Zwilling Room. Tips & Tricks and valuable information from industry experts. Registration is required. Call 440.892.9828 or

email: Deacon Larry Gregg at [lgregg@lear-group.com](mailto:lgregg@lear-group.com). Please provide your name, phone and email.

## REMEMBER

This Sunday, June 15 after the 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Masses, there will be teams of people to pray with you for comfort, strength, healing, thanksgiving and any need you may have. If you are interested in being part of the **GUARDIAN ANGELS**, please call Sussy Hidalgo (835-4087). Remember, the Guardian Angels pray with you every third Sunday of the month.

## SACRISTANS

We are looking for volunteers to serve the parish. We are currently in need of a few Sacristans, especially for all weekend Masses. A rewarding way of serving your parish, sacristans are men and women (couples welcome) of the parish who prepare the sacred vessels, wine, hosts and other liturgical items before and after each Mass. A minimal time commitment, sacristans are an important part of Mass preparation, supporting both our priests and parishioners. Ample training will be available until you are comfortable in going solo. If you are interested in joining and have further questions or know of anyone who is interested, please contact Judy Dunchack (440)331-4476 or email at [judydunchack@oh.rr.com](mailto:judydunchack@oh.rr.com)

**GUILD  
PARISH WOMEN WHO MAKE THINGS**

**JUNE is Membership Month!!!** Become a Member of the Guild in the month of **JUNE & Your Name will be entered into a Drawing for a \$50 Spa Gift Certificate!** Please fill out a Membership Form which is available at the Parish Office, in the box next to the Guild bulletin board in the Zwilling Room Hallway OR in the June 1st Bulletin. Dues are just \$10. **Questions, contact Jordanne Birch 216.224.9031 [jordannem-birch@gmail.com](mailto:jordannem-birch@gmail.com)** HAPPY SUMMER !!

## THE GUILD BOOK CLUB

will meet Thursday evening, June 19th, at 7:30 pm in the school library. We will discuss *The Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline. All members of the Guild are welcome. For further information please contact Carol Lawler, 440-930-2096 or [carol.lawler@oh.rr.com](mailto:carol.lawler@oh.rr.com).

## PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION CORNER

**PSR Home-School Religion Families** It's time to make an appointment with Miss Telepak for your child's year-end report. Please contact her at the Parish Office at [telepak@saintraphaelparish.com](mailto:telepak@saintraphaelparish.com) or 440-871-1100, ext. 108.

## SACRAMENT NEWS

**All children who received their First Holy Communion this year** are invited to attend Mass at Saint John's Cathedral (East Ninth Street and Superior) on the Vigil of Corpus Christi—The Body and Blood of Christ on **Saturday, June 21st at 4:30 p.m.** First Communicants from across the diocese will participate in the Entrance Procession of the Mass. Children must be there by 4 p.m. and should wear their First Communion clothing. If your family is interested in participating in this Corpus Christi Mass, please contact Miss Telepak by **Tuesday, June 17** at [ttelepak@saintraphaelparish.com](mailto:ttelepak@saintraphaelparish.com) or 440-871-1100. Parking is free. After the Mass, the children and their families are encouraged to tour the Cathedral. What a great way to celebrate receiving Jesus this year!

**First Communion Pictures** If you ordered Group or Individual First Communion pictures from Thomas & Thomas Photography, and indicated that you would be picking them up, your child's photos are now ready!

## **Thomas & Thomas Photography Summer hours:**

Closed on Sunday & Monday

Tuesday & Thursday: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Wednesday & Friday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Their studio is located at 27360 West Oviatt Road, in Bay Village, between Cahoon Road and Dover Center Road. Their phone number is 440-835-4707.

## **FAMILY PERSPECTIVES**

### **June 15, 2014 - The Most Holy Trinity**

God the Father so loved the world that He gave His only Son that we might believe and have eternal life. The Christian family is a *church of the home* that is an icon of the Trinity. Fathers have a key role to live and teach in such a way that all family members experience life and love and learn the ways of God. Be sure to honor fathers, grandfathers, stepfathers and godfathers on this Father's Day.


## SUPPORT GROUP FOR WOMEN OF ST. RAPHAEL PARISH WITH CANCER

We are always ready to welcome you. Whether you are just starting treatment or are a several decade survivor, please join our support group. We get together to ask questions, to share information, to pray, to talk and to listen. Some women come once in a while, some come every month. You are always welcome to join us! Our informal gatherings are the first Monday of each month. **Our next meeting will be on July 14th** (second Monday this month). Should you have any questions, please contact Kris (440)930-5479, Annette (440)250-9028, or Colleen (440)438-3388.

## CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP MEETING

will meet this Saturday (June 21) in the Multi-Purpose Room in the Raphael Center at 6:45 a.m., for the Liturgy of the Hours and our bimonthly (1st & 3rd Saturday of the month) fellowship meeting. We will be discussing this Sunday's Scripture readings. Come and join us for coffee, donuts and fellowship. **PLEASE NOTE: You have another opportunity for Fellowship! Catholic Men's Fellowship also meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Zwilling Room, in addition to the 1st and 3rd Saturday.**

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

 Reservations are now being accepted for couples married 50 years (married in 1964) to attend the **50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration** at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Sunday, July 27 at 2:30 p.m. The Most Reverend Richard G. Lennon will be Principal Celebrant. Couples who are celebrating other significant years 55 or over or who missed previous celebrations are welcome to register and attend. Please call Tish Bush in the Parish Office (871-1100) by June 20 for information or to register

## SOCIAL CONCERNS

Families and friends and other groups are needed to help **SERVE A MEAL** at **ST. AUGUSTINE'S**. Next two dates are July 13 and August 17. Please call Fred Bangeman (440)933-6686 for more information.

**ST. RAPHAEL Baby Bottle Fundraiser for Birthright, Bethesda-House of Mercy and Choose Life Program** Baby bottles were distributed on Mother's Day weekend. Any bottles which you filled and have not yet returned can be dropped off at the Parish Office. If you were unable to participate in this effort and you picked up a baby bottle, please return it to the Parish Office for future fundraisers. Thank you for participating in this worthwhile endeavor.

## HELP NEEDED

with the Baby Bottle Collection on June 19 and 22. Please call Tom and Bev Nemecek (440)871-8949 if you are interested and/or for more information.



During construction, bins will not be available for food and clothing donation drop offs.

**NOT TOO LATE!!!!  
DEADLINE HAS BEEN  
EXTENDED!**

## PILGRIMAGE TO CATHOLIC MARYLAND

Hosted by Fr. Tim Gareau  
September 8-10

Call Ann O'Connor (440)895-0964 ASAP  
for information and reservations.

Deposit of \$50.00 due by June 30th!

Your participation is needed to make  
these trips happen!!!!

## LEGION OF MARY

Do you have a passion for the Rosary and a love for Our Blessed Mother? If so, the summer **Legion of Mary** may be right for you! This summer, our Legion meets every Tuesday at 10:00 am in the Prayer Garden to pray the Rosary. Once school is back in session, we resume our regular meetings and service after the rosary. Hope to see you (and your children) there. Questions? Call Father Ryan at the parish office at 440-871-1100.

## STRESS MANAGEMENT - MINDFULNESS - YOGA - CATHOLIC FAITH



I'm hoping to offer a multi-session program this Fall focused on managing stress. It will be integrated with our Catholic faith and include other components such as living in the present moment (mindfulness), some form(s) of yoga (maybe even "Laughter Yoga") and effective techniques for reducing stress. It's in the very early planning stages and I welcome anyone with knowledge, skills, or even interest in any of the above to help plan, implement, and/or execute the program. Please contact Dr. Andy Kereky in the parish office if you're interested or have questions

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY FOR TEENS:

Littlest Angels Babysitting: We are in need of teen volunteers to assist with babysitting in the **Littlest Angels Room** (Zwilling Room) on Sunday mornings. Students may help during the 9:30 or 11:00 Masses and do not need to sign up ahead of time – just show up 15 minutes before the Mass begins. (Please remember that you still need to go to Mass before or after you help!)

For information on the High School Youth Ministry Program or the Confirmation Program contact Amy Lashutka at 440-871-1100, ext. 109 or [alashutka@saintraphaelparish.com](mailto:alashutka@saintraphaelparish.com)

**HSYM SUMMER MONDAY NIGHT HANGOUTS!** All teens who will be entering grades 9-12 (and HSYM Alums!) are invited to come to the next MONDAY NIGHT HANGOUT of the Summer on Monday, June 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:00pm. **Meet at the PLAYGROUND (in the Upper Room if it is raining).** There will be free food, games, new friends, and even some surprises! Our plan is to meet almost every Monday night during the summer just to “hangout” together, to welcome new people to HSYM, and to have some FUN (whipped cream, water balloons, bouncy balls, fire, fly swatters, and many other things may make appearances throughout the summer!) These are the tentative dates for HSYM Hangouts: 6/16, 6/30, 7/14, 7/21, 7/28, 8/4, 8/11, 8/18 (NO Hangout on 6/21 due to Service Trip or 7/7 due to ND Vision). If you would like to receive text and/or Facebook reminders about these Hangouts, please email Amy to let her know! Invite your friends! Hope to see you at the first Hangout!



### CATHOLIC HOMESCHOOL CONFERENCE-JULY 11 AND 12, 2014

The Immaculate Heart of Mary Cleveland Homeschool and Parent Conference will be held at St. Adalbert Parish-Keller Center, 66, Adalbert Street, in Berea, on Friday, July 11th (2:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.) and on Saturday, July 12th (9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.). Confirmed speakers include: Fr. Angelus Shaughnessy, Dr. Ray Guarendi, Mr. Philip Gray, Mrs. Virginia Seuffert, and Mrs. Maureen Wittmann!

Admission is free and pre-registration is not required. For more information, please call (540)636-1946, or email: [info@ihmconference.org](mailto:info@ihmconference.org) or visit [www.ihmconference.org](http://www.ihmconference.org)

### STRAWBERRY CARD PARTY

The St. Joseph (Avon Lake) Ladies Guild's Annual “*Strawberry Card Party*” will be held Thursday, June 26th, in St. Joseph Hall. Doors open 11:30 a.m.; serving begins 12 Noon. On the menu: Chicken Salad, Croissant, Fresh Fruit, Beverage, and Homemade Strawberry Pie! Donation \$12.00 per person. Reservations a MUST! Call Mary (933-5991), Lois (933-2682), or Barb (933-9902). Deadline is Monday, June 16th. There will be Door Prizes, Raffles and More!

### CHARISMATIC CONFERENCE

The 32nd Cleveland Charismatic Conference sponsored by Catholic Renewal Ministries will be held July 18th and 19th, 2014 at Magnificat High School in Rocky River. Guest speakers will be Patti Mansfield and Deacon Ralph Poyo and local speaker Michele TePas Harrison. The theme is “*Gifted to Serve.*” The conference opens on Friday at 7:00 p.m. Contact Sue or Joe Palmieri (440)774-1191 for registration information or visit [www.crmweb.org](http://www.crmweb.org). Advance registration through July 9th is \$30, and at the door \$35.

### The WESTSHORE SEPARATED, DIVORCED AND WIDOWED CATHOLIC SUPPORT GROUP

will hold a meeting on June 15th at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at St. Brendan's Kenny Center located at 4242 Brendan Lane, North Olmsted. Brendan Lane runs south off Lorain Rd and is one street west of Clague Rd. Plan to join us for a fun and social evening. For more information please call Jane (216)509-4570. Look forward to seeing you there.

### CORNERSTONE OF HOPE HOSTS YOUTH CATHOLIC SUMMER CAMPS IN JULY

Looking for a Catholic Summer Camp for your son, daughter or grandchild? Cornerstone of Hope is hosting “*Soldiers for Christ*” Boys Camp for grades 4-9 from 9:00 a.m.-Noon from July 7-11 and “*God's Greatest Gift Is You*” Girls Camp from 9:00 a.m.-Noon from July 14-18. This is Cornerstone of Hope's 5th year of hosting the camps held at its Independence location at 5905 Brecksville Road. Both camps promise to be faithful and fun at the same time. Cost is \$120 and includes meals, camp t-shirt, crafts and activities. For more information or to register, go to <http://cornerstoneofhope.org/page/g3> or call (216)524-4673.

### PEN PALS NEEDED!

The St. Ladislav Prison Ministry is looking for people who would like to correspond with inmates through letter writing. We have a list of people who are waiting for pen pals. It is a wonderful opportunity to touch those who are lonely and are in need of friendship. If you would like to learn more about this special ministry, please contact St. Ladislav parishioner, Karen KIELTYKA (440)899-1878 or [fkkieltyka@gmail.com](mailto:fkkieltyka@gmail.com) or St. Raphael parishioner, Anne Straitiff, (440)871-2298 or [Straitiff@oh.rr.com](mailto:Straitiff@oh.rr.com).



### FATHERHOOD

When a father gives to his son, both laugh; when a son gives to his father, both cry.

—William Shakespeare

*THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES*

**Monday, June 16**

6:00am Cursillo Men's Group (MICH)  
 6:00-8:00pm HSYM Hangout (Playground, PAC-K, PO Upper Room)  
 7:00pm Parish Council (PO Upper Room)

**Tuesday, June 17**

10:00am Legion of Mary (Prayer Garden)  
 3:30-5:30pm Altar Server Training (PAC)  
 5:30pm **Liturgy of the Hours (PAC)**  
 7:00-8:15pm Confirmation Make-Up Mtg. (PO Upper Room)

**Wednesday, June 18**

7:00pm Boy Scouts (LRm+k, ZR)

**Thursday, June 19**

3:30-5:30pm Altar Server Training (PAC)  
 7:00pm Cub Scout 159 Den Mtg. (LRm)  
 7:30pm Guild Book Club (LIB)

**Friday, June 20**

9:30am MOMS Group (ARCH)  
 10:00am Fri-4:00pm Sat Eucharistic Adoration (RC Chapel)

**Saturday, June 21**

6:45am **Eucharistic Adoration until 4:00pm (RC Chapel)**  
 1:30pm Catholic Men's Fellowship (MPR)  
 Wedding (PAC)

**Sunday, June 22**

9:30pm **HSYM Summer Service Trip June 22-27**  
 2:00pm Babysitting (ZR)  
 7:30pm Baptisms (PAC)  
 Men's Basketball (LRm)

- C-Church
- S-School
- ARCH-Archangel Room (formerly RC L.R.)
- LIB- Library (located in school)
- LRm- Lunchroom (formerly G-Gym, CAF-Cafeteria)
- LRm-K-Kitchen (off Lunch Room)
- Multi-Purpose Room (formerly RC D.R.)
- PAC-Parish Activity Center
- PAC-K-Parish Activity Center-Kitchen
- PO-Parish Office
- RC-Raphael Center
- \*CHER- Cherubim Room
- \*GAB-Gabriel Room
- \*HM-Humility of Mary Room
- \*MICH-St. Michael Room
- \*SER-Seraphim Room
- \*TOB-Tobit Room
- \* Rooms located up-stairs in Raphael Center)
- ZR-Zwilling Room



**JUNE is Membership Month!!! Become a Member of the Guild in the month of JUNE & Your Name will be entered into a Drawing for a \$50 Spa Gift Certificate!**

All women of St. Raphael Parish are cordially invited to join the Guild - a wonderful group of women of all ages who "make things happen" by organizing social, spiritual & service activities supporting our parish & local communities. The Guild is a great way to meet new people, develop lasting friendships & enjoy a variety of fun & interesting events. There is truly something for everyone. Please fill out a Membership Form which is available at the Parish Office, in the box next to the Guild bulletin board in the Zwilling Room Hallway OR in this June 1st Bulletin. Dues are just \$10. **Join NOW and Your Name will be entered into the Drawing for the \$50 Spa Gift Certificate. Questions, contact JordannBirch 216.224.9031 [jordannembirch@gmail.com](mailto:jordannembirch@gmail.com)**



## *The Most Holy Trinity*

FIRST READING: *Exodus 34:4b–6, 8–9*  
RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55*  
SECOND READING: *2 Corinthians 13:11–13*  
GOSPEL: *John 3:16–18*

### **Mystery**

*We can always draw from the well of mystery. It is an inexhaustible well. There is always something to be discovered. People are mysteries to us, even the people we live nearest and love most and think we know. The fundamental mystery of persons makes life interesting, of course. It also keeps the rumor and gossip mills going. The mystery of the individual and the depth of his or her soul offer us but a faint shadow of the mystery of God, who is three Persons—Father, Son, and Spirit. This is a mystery we will never cease contemplating and celebrating.*

### **‡ Comment**

We consider the Holy Trinity today, not as a theological abstraction, but as a mystery into which we are drawn. We know God's inner life because God has shown and told us. We proceed by way of story. We respond by way of praise.

The first reading carries a sense of awe. Moses, summoned by the LORD, journeys to a high place. This "Lord" descends enshrouded in clouds and passes before Moses. This God not only tells, then repeats, the name "LORD" but offers a description, "a merciful and gracious God, slow to anger and rich in kindness and fidelity." Scholars tell us that the Hebrew words for God's care are words of deep, visceral feeling. The Lord looks upon and cares about the people with the anxiety and eagerness of a parent. God, the Lord, cannot help but act on behalf of an admittedly stiff-necked people.

To no one's surprise Moses' response is adoration. But then he speaks. He recognizes that the transcendent Lord seeks to be personally involved with Israel. Big God looks favorably on little Israel. Moses puts himself on the line and asks God to "come along in our company" and receive an unworthy people as God's own.

We know that God does just this. All Hebrew Scriptures in one way or another tell how it goes with a people and the God who chose them, small and contrary as they are.

The Hebrew Scriptures were the only Scriptures the followers of Jesus had. They formed the entire backdrop and stage against which and on which the story of Jesus was played out and understood. In the dark night, a troubled Nicodemus came to Jesus. He was a learned man and a ruler. Thanks to Nicodemus, we learn of Jesus' relationship to the God of Moses, the God rich in kindness and fidelity. We learn the extent of God's care for the world in the person of Jesus, the teacher. In this story, we learn that Jesus is more than a teacher. He is also the only begotten Son of the Father.

### **‡ Reflection**

The reflection on God—whom we address as Father and Son and Holy Spirit—is set before us today in two narratives: as abiding presence on a high place and as a quiet revelation to a troubled, hesitant Nicodemus. In these narratives we learn that God who is for us is with us in the Son. In the second reading, belief in the presence of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is evident. By the time this letter is written, the faith of the Christian community is manifest. The blessings of the Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—flow easily and familiarly. Faith in God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is already part of the language and living awareness of the Christian community. Their words and blessings point to the presence of a personal God whose inner life is a community of love, as theirs must be.