

Saint Raphael

April 2014



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

A Letter From Our Pastor

We are an Easter People

My Dear Friends in Christ,

Easter is quickly drawing upon us; and we, as a faith community, look to celebrate God's saving activity in the gift of the Resurrection. How deeply we long and yearn for our God who loves us unconditionally. Jesus is risen, just as He foretold! This new and everlasting covenant has been established by the blood of His cross and remains with us forevermore! What a blessing, what a gift! May we continue to be drawn deeply into the mysteries of our faith and the miracle of Easter this year.

During these final days of Lent, be sure to take the opportunity to spend some quality time with Our Lord. Let us openly walk with Jesus through Holy Week and fully embrace the

passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus through the ceremonies that are made available to us. The mystery of Passion Sunday with the palms reminds us of the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, the city where He gave His life for us; Holy Thursday, which recalls the institution of the Eucharist (the source and summit of our faith) and the gift of priesthood (the source of service in Jesus); Good Friday, which asks us to follow the path of Jesus' suffering and death on the cross and embrace the redemptive value that the cross holds out to us; and Easter, the culmination of these days of grace and strength.

Please join us during Holy Week, Easter and well beyond.

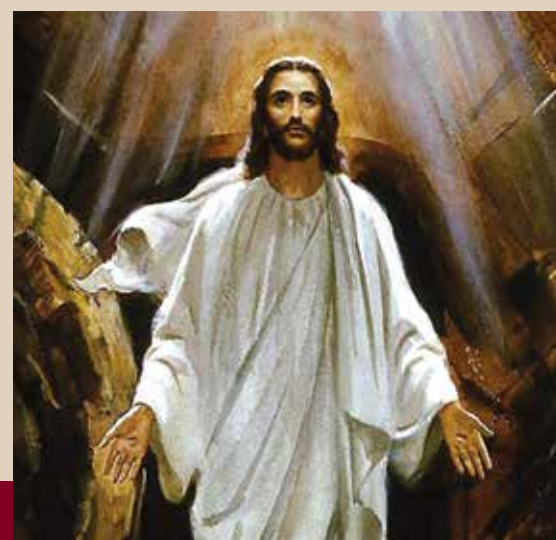
How important it is to gather as a faith community to remember and celebrate what God has done for us. All are welcomed and encouraged.

The Pastoral Staff here at St. Raphael extends a heartfelt "thank you" to all of our parishioners. Your dedication, support, and love for the Lord encourage us in our ministry. You are an Easter People! You live in the light and the love of the Lord and inspire us greatly! May we continue to work together in building God's Kingdom and extending Easter joy to all those we meet. May the grace of the Risen Christ be with you and your loved ones. God bless and keep you!

- Fr. Tim Gareau, Pastor*
- Fr. Ryan Cubera*
- Fr. AD Krupp*
- Deacon Larry Gregg*
- Roger Andrachik*
- Clare Blake*
- Brian Blayney*

- Tish Bush*
- Barbara Cunningham*
- Mark Cunningham*
- Ellen Grady*
- Joanne Hout*
- Andy Kereky*
- Ashley Klug*

- Amy Lashutka*
- Maureen Mayer*
- Ann Miller*
- Pat Ranallo*
- Nora Ruddy*
- Terri Telepak*
- Bill Toler*
- Kathy Witmer*



SEE BACK COVER FOR HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

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Palm Sunday

Will You Carry Christ on the Journey?

As we continue our Lenten journey this month, we celebrate Passion Sunday, also known as Palm Sunday, on April 13.

The readings will focus our attention on two major events in our salvation history. In our Palm Sunday reading, we hear of Christ's triumphant journey into Jerusalem where He is joyfully greeted by the crowds. People throw down palms and cloaks in His path as they shout "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" (Mt. 21:9)

Yet Christ does not come with the splendor often surrounding royalty.

Christ chose to make his glorious entrance into the holy city of Jerusalem riding a donkey – Christ calls this humble animal into service on his bittersweet journey that by the week's end will lead to the cross on Calvary.

Likewise, Christ has chosen each of us to carry Him during our life on earth. Like the donkey, we often don't feel fit to carry out the work of the King of Kings. We often think our gifts are not good enough for the King or that they are not needed.

Nevertheless, He calls us and He eagerly waits for our response.

Christ's journey into the Holy City continues today. We are walking with Christ now and He asks us to humbly offer ourselves in service to Him. This journey with Christ will not always be easy. Remember how the shouts of approval greeting Christ on Palm Sunday are quickly replaced with jeering mockery on Good Friday.

As we each respond to Christ's call to serve the Church, we will likely experience times when our feeling of victory and triumph are replaced with sacrifices that sometimes seem too much to carry. But we must be steadfast in our response to Christ. We must be committed to carrying Him on our journey here on earth as we live out our lives as disciples.

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Q & A *Parish Activity Center (PAC) as Worship Space?*

The Parish Activity Center (PAC) will serve as the designated Worship Space during Phase II construction of our new church beginning this summer. This is the third in a series of articles to explain how our faith community will transition into and utilize this interim space for liturgy. This article focuses on parish campus facilities during construction.

Will there be a Cry Room?

Space in the Parish Activity Center does not allow for a Cry Room. However, the Gathering Area outside the PAC can be used for this purpose, and we encourage families to bring their smallest children to church.

Will Littlest Angels' Child Care still be offered in the Zwilling Room during the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday Masses?

Yes. Supervised Child Care will continue to be available after these two Sunday morning Masses.

Will there be changing tables in the restrooms?

Yes. Changing tables will be available in both the Women's and Men's PAC restrooms.

Will the book racks still be available with books for sale?

Yes. Book racks with religious books for sale will be located in the Gathering Area.

Will there still be donut sales during construction?

Yes. Donut sales will continue to be held in the lunchroom after Sunday morning Masses, just as they are today.

What hours will the PAC Worship Space be open?

The PAC Worship Space will be open the same hours as our church has been open — Monday through Saturday, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., and on Sundays from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Will Vacation Bible School take place during construction?

There will be no Vacation Bible School during construction of our new church. Look forward to our awesome VBS returning in July of 2016!

Will clothing collections for the Salvation Army continue during construction?

Collections for the Salvation Army will be suspended during the construction period but will resume after the new church is built.

Will we lose any handicapped parking spaces during construction?

No. Should any existing handicapped parking spaces be rendered unusable during construction, then replacement spaces will be provided from within our parking lot.

Are we losing the Zwilling Room hallway restrooms during construction?

No. These restrooms will not be affected by construction and will continue to be available for use.



Dominic and Emily Giovannazzo

Moving Fa

In our personal faith journey, one can either move forward or one can move backward, but there is no standing still. Christ not only invites us to journey toward Him, but He longs for us to do so, and it is only by living, learning and exploring our faith that we can grow ever closer to God. And as we can learn from parishioners Dominic and Emily Giovannazzo, faith is ever evolving, continually offering us something new as we strive to learn and be more.

“My faith is extremely important to me because it is always a work in progress,” Emily says. “It fascinates me and strengthens me to watch it grow and change as I experience more and learn more.”

Of course, every journey has to begin somewhere. And for both Dominic and Emily, it was their parents who gave them a childhood immersed in faith and God, cementing the foundation for a journey that continues today. Dominic, who is originally from Elyria, Ohio, comes from a large, close-knit family. He and his two younger sisters and one older brother were raised Catholic, received a Catholic education from kindergarten through high school, and Dominic even attended Xavier University on a swimming scholarship. A few states over in Rhode Island, Emily was baptized in the Episcopal faith. Her family was very active in their church, and Emily attended Sunday school, was an altar server, received communion



Parishioners Dominic and Emily Giovannazzo have been members of St. Raphael's for five years.

and was confirmed in that faith.

Interestingly, when Emily was attending Boston College, she became friends with someone who happened to be Dominic's best friend from high school, and during their senior year he introduced the two of them during spring break in Key West, Fla. It was a successful introduction because immediately after graduating, Dominic moved to the Boston area to be closer to Emily, and three years later they were married in an Episcopal church in the presence of both an Episcopalian priest and a Catholic priest.

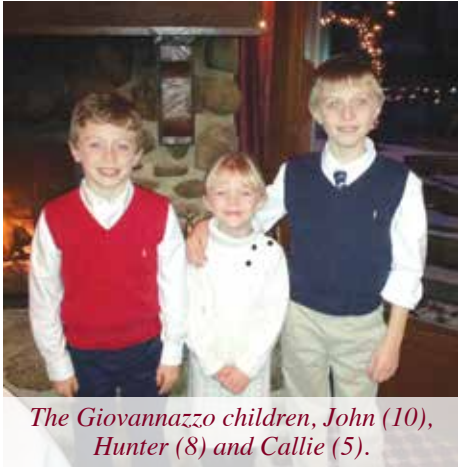
For those first several years of marriage, Dominic and Emily held on to the faith of their childhood, but ultimately decided to baptize their children — John, Hunter and Callie — in the Catholic faith. Indeed, they attended Mass every Sunday as a family, but it wasn't until their oldest child was preparing for his First Communion that Emily realized she wanted to be able to participate in the sacraments with the rest of

her family. So she enrolled in St. Raphael's RCIA program under the direction of Fr. Breck.

“When I first enrolled in the program I still had reservations about converting,” Emily says. “The Episcopal faith and the Catholic faith hold many of the same belief systems, so I almost didn't see the point. There was also the fact that I didn't want to hurt my parents who had raised me as an Episcopalian. But after I talked with my parents, and after learning more about Catholicism, I knew that at heart I was a Catholic and that it was important for me to participate in the Mass with my family.”

During the RCIA process, while Emily was undergoing a conversion of faith, Dominic was experiencing a different kind of conversion — one of renewal. As Emily's RCIA sponsor, Dominic was discovering things about his faith that he had either forgotten, or never knew at all. In fact, he says that the birth of his children and journeying through

Forward in Faith



The Giovannazzo children, John (10), Hunter (8) and Callie (5).

RCIA with Emily are two factors that have greatly impacted his faith.

“Having been raised Catholic and going through Catholic schools my whole life, it was great to get such an amazing ‘refresh’ of my faith from the bottom up while going through the RCIA process with her,” Dominic says. “It definitely stressed the importance of always continuing your faith education even as an adult. Also, I think that going through the process together strengthened our marriage and brought God into the center of it.”

Today, Dominic and Emily have been married 11 years, and despite busy schedules — Dominic works at Creative Wealth Associates, and Emily works part time for the Bay Village Recreation Department and for Talbots at Crocker Park — they have found ways to take that faith and apply it to a stewardship way of life. But it wasn’t something that happened overnight. Dominic remembers an early conversation

with Fr. Tim inquiring about volunteer opportunities and where there was a need in the parish.

“Fr. Tim threw me a curveball when he instead asked me what I wanted to do for the parish,” Dominic says. “I have to admit, I did not know how to answer that at the time and walked away confused. I thought about it for quite some time and later, after prayer and further conversations with Fr. Tim and Fr. Al, I came to the realization that I was not giving myself credit for the gifts that God had given me. This began my journey of stewardship.”

Over the years, the entire family has found ways to participate in parish life. Dominic has served on the Finance Council, has worked at the Lenten Fish Fry, and he recently became involved in the Catholic Charities campaign. Emily co-teaches Kindergarten PSR, helps with the Social Concerns Ministry, is a member of the Prayer Ministry, Familia, and the RCIA team. Even the children are involved — Emily actively involves them in any of the Social Concerns Ministry work that she does, and they often help Dominic at the Lenten Fish Frys.

Finally, the beautiful thing about our faith journey is that there is always more to understand, discover and understand. God is calling us to Him, and to answer His call means moving forward in our faith. It’s a faith that comes full circle back to the Mass, the source and summit of our faith. And when that happens, it gives meaning to all we do.

“When I became involved in RCIA, I learned about what the Church believes and so Mass started to get more meaningful,” Emily says. “Then I became involved with Adopt-a-Family and I had somewhere to bring the love I received from the Eucharist. As a result, the Mass became even more meaningful. When I taught PSR, attended Bible study and joined Familia, I understood the power of both knowledge about the Church and faith through prayer. These, too, made the Mass more meaningful. I guess what I am trying to say is that it is all a beautiful connection that ultimately keeps leading back to the Eucharist, and stewardship has led me back to Him over and over.”

“Having been raised Catholic and going through Catholic schools my whole life, it was great to get such an amazing ‘refresh’ of my faith from the bottom up while going through the RCIA process with [Emily].”

— Dominic Giovannazzo



Blessed John Paul II & Blessed John XXIII *to be Canonized* April 27

Recognizing the heroic virtue and unwavering faith of two 20th century popes, Pope John Paul II and Blessed John XXIII, Pope Francis announced in September that he would declare his two predecessors saints at a single ceremony on April 27.

“To celebrate them together is a sign of appreciation of the holiness of two popes who paid witness to our time,” the Vatican spokesman, the Rev. Federico Lombardi, said during a news conference.

Blessed John Paul served as pope from 1978 to 2005 and was beatified by Pope Benedict XVI on Divine Mercy Sunday, May 1, 2011.

Blessed John XXIII, who is known particularly for convoking the Second Vatican Council, was pope from 1958 to 1963; Blessed John Paul beatified him in 2000.

The Catholic Church’s process leading to canonization involves three major steps. First is the declaration of a person’s heroic virtues, after which the church gives him or her the title Venerable. Second is beatification, after which he or she is called

Blessed. The third step is canonization, or declaration of sainthood. Canonization is the culmination of a thorough process by which the Church investigates the life of the individual in question and seeks confirmation from heaven in the form of a verified miracle performed through the saint’s intercession.

This process often begins decades or even centuries after the saint’s death, but in the case of John Paul II, who died in the spring of 2005, this process has been a relatively quick one.

Born Karol Wojtyla in 1920 in rural Poland, John Paul II’s early life was one of successive hardships. He lost his mother, father and siblings at an early age. Left alone in the world, Wojtyla turned to his faith and developed a profound relationship with Christ during the Nazi regime at the time of World War II.

Ordained to the priesthood in 1946, John Paul II spent the next three decades as a priest and then as a bishop, ministering to the people of Poland who were under post-World War II



Blessed John Paul II



Blessed John XXIII

Soviet rule. His experience of the oppression of the Polish people and the gross abuses of human dignity formed his unique philosophy and theology that went on to become the cornerstone of his papacy.

In 1978, at the height of the Cold War, the College of Cardinals elected Wojtyla as the first non-Italian pope in 455 years and the first Pole in the Church's history.

John Paul II went on to become one of the most important figures of the 20th century, redefining the papacy in the mass media age and advancing the renewal of Vatican II. His travels around the world and his wildly popular World Youth Day events helped strengthen the unity of the global Catholic Church.

Following his death in 2005, two miracles have been confirmed through John Paul II's intercession. A French nun who was inexplicably cured of Parkinson's disease led to John Paul II's beatification in 2011. A second miracle, which must occur after a beatification, involved a Costa Rican woman who was cured of a cerebral aneurysm the very day of John Paul II's beatification.

Blessed John XXIII was affectionately referred to as "Good Pope John." Born Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli to a large and

humble family of sharecroppers in 1881, he was ordained to the priesthood in 1904, and his efforts throughout the Holocaust during World War II would help save Jewish refugees from Nazi persecution. Roncalli was raised to the rank of Cardinal by Pope Pius XII in 1953. However, in October 1958, Pius XII would die suddenly from heart failure, and Roncalli would be elected pope.

John XXIII's papacy was initially perceived as a "stop-gap," due to his advanced age. Yet, despite this perception, John XXIII announced in 1959 his intention to call a general council — and in October 1962, the Second Vatican Council was opened. However, he would not live to witness the remaining periods of the Second Vatican Council, as he died from illness in June 1963.

The first miracle attributed to John XXIII was the healing of Sister Caterina Capitani, who had been suffering a severe infection. However, Pope Francis took the rare step of waiving the requirement of a second miracle for Blessed John XXIII, paving the way for his imminent canonization. In fact, until now, Blessed John XXIII was the last pope to waive the second miracle requirement, for St. Gregorio Barbarigo.

St. Raphael

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Holy Week 2014

CONFESSIONS

Wednesday, April 16 – 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 19 – 3:00-5:00 p.m.

PASSION SUNDAY, APRIL 13

Saturday Vigil Masses
April 12 – 4:30 and 7:00 p.m.
Sunday Masses
April 13 – 7:30, 9:30, 11:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m.

MONDAY APRIL 14

Masses at 7:45 and 9:15 a.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 15

Masses at 7:45 and 9:15 a.m.
Chrism Mass at 7:00 p.m.
at St. John Cathedral

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

Mass at 7:45 a.m.
Confessions 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Tenebrae at 8:30 p.m.

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 17

No Morning Masses
Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:30 p.m.
Eucharistic Adoration in the Zwilling Room
until 11:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 18

No Masses
Bay Village Ecumenical Service at Noon at
St. Raphael Church

Celebration of Our Lord's Passion
Liturgy of the Word
Veneration of the Cross
Holy Communion
3:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 19

No Morning Masses
Blessing of Food at 1:30 p.m.
Confessions, 3:00-5:00 p.m.
Easter Vigil Mass at 9:00 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 20

Resurrection of Our Lord
Masses in Church
7:30, 9:30, 11:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m.
Masses in the PAC
9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Liturgy Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 and 7:00 p.m. | **Sunday:** 7:30, 9:30, 11:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m.

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.