

St. Raphael Sodality Celebrates 25 Years

Over 60 Sodality members and guests helped St. Raphael's Sodality celebrate its 25th Anniversary on November 13. We began by praying the Holy Rosary to honor and thank our Blessed Mother for her intercession and protection. Msgr. Michael Wilson, Sodality's first Moderator, was our special guest and speaker. He reminded us to remember that each of us is given a gift to contribute to the building up of Christ's Church.

Our current Moderator and pastor, Fr. Michael Salah, and retired priest, Fr. Tom Morrow, joined in the celebration of renewing friendships and sharing memories of prayer and service through the years.

We honored fourteen Sodality members who were members of the original Sodality - 25 years ago! And twelve women who served as Prefects through the years were recognized and received a special gift. We also remembered, recognized, and prayed for the souls of our departed sister Sodality members.

It was a beautiful day of sisterhood, and we enjoyed reminiscing over photos of past Moderators, Prefects, members and activities.

In December, St. Raphael's Sodality members will contribute to the many charitable activities held by our parish - the Mother Teresa luncheon, the Christmas party for St. Raphael's assisted living residents,



Past and present Sodality Prefects (L-R): Rosemarie Buckley; Mary Ann Greene; Louise Cox; Eleanor Bell; Janet Leonard-Walker; Betty Gill; Edith Galvin; Martha Verme; Linda Trinh; Rosie Bird; Adrienne Willich (for her mother Bonnie Prokop); and Ronnie Heller.

the Advent giving tree, etc.

On January 15 at 7pm in the parish library, Fr. Tom Morrow will speak with us about how to make a good confession. And mark your calendar for the Annual Sodality Tea on February 12th at 2:00 pm in the parish library.

We thank the women who have supported St. Raphael's Sodality through the years. Our motto is "To Jesus through Mary." To join Sodality please send a \$30 check payable to St. Raphael's Church (note Sodality dies in the memo line) to Aleta Phillips, 304 Winter Walk Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20878.

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St. Raphael's original Sodality members pose with their original and current moderators (L-R): Barbara Lynch; Eleanor Bell; Kathy Stetson; Rosemarie Buckley; Fr. Tom Morrow; Martha Corrado; Dee Bogart; Martha Verme; Edith Galvin; Sally McClean; Fr. Mike Salah; Jean Tan; Mary McGowan; Msgr. Michael Wilson; Rosie Bird; Ronnie Heller; Mary Ann Greene.



Eighth-graders Maddie Foulkes, Douglas Rohrer, Andy Dulcey, Declan Healy, Kate Gregory, and Luke Malanoski display their math contest third-place honors. Photo by John McCutcheon



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What's Ahead

- Jan. 13: Preschool open house invites interested parents to a presentation and tour of our campus at 9:15 a.m. K-8 open house begins at 10:30 a.m.
- Jan. 17: Preschool registration for 2020-21 opens at 10:30 a.m.

For details about these events and more, visit our website at www.straphael-schoolmd.org.

St. Raphael Parish St. Raphael School

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Rockville, MD

Rev. Michael Salah, Pastor

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www.straphaels.org
www.straphaelschoolmd.org

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@SRSrockville

St. Raphael

End of Life Issues

A Panel Discussion

at
St Raphael Church
1513 Dunster Rd, Rockville, MD 20854
Thursday, February 20, 2020 – 7:30-9:00 PM

Distinguished Panelists will address legal, medical, pastoral, and domestic issues related to the “end of life.” These topics are not just for seniors anymore. Suicide rates among the young increase; middle adults scramble to save money so they can retire and also carve out time to support elderly parents; many older adults face increased isolation and poverty. On the other hand, as awareness increases, more people are involved in making physically, mentally and spiritually healthy choices related to end of life issues. All ages and stages of adulthood are involved.

In their individual professions the Panelists frequently deal with end of life issues.

Daniel M. Flores, Esq. is a longstanding member of the Maryland and District of Columbia bars and serves as a counsel in the United States Congress. *Thomas J. DeGraba, M.D.*, is a board-certified Neurologist, a nationally recognized physician and clinical neuroscience expert in Stroke, Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), and Psychological Health (PH). *Carol DeGraba, RN*, is experienced in medical and surgical nursing, coronary and intensive care, post anesthesia care, home health, and school nursing. With the assistance of Hospice, she cared for both of her parents during their end stages of life. *Father Dan Gallagher* grew up in the western U.S. and in Europe. After earning a BA at Wheaton College, Illinois, and working several years in D.C., he entered Mount St. Mary's Seminary and earned a Master of Divinity and a Master of Arts in Theology. Since 2009 he has served in parishes as a parochial vicar.

During this discussion the Panelists will touch on topics related to end of life issues, such as:

advance directives and living wills, Maryland law, assisted suicide, medication, pain, mental state, Hospice, long/short term care, housing, personal support, family, friends, finance, personal choice, pastoral care, sacraments, faith, and Catholic teaching.

All are welcome. There is No Fee.

Hosted by St. Raphael Religious Education and Adult Faith Formation

For more information please contact:
Mary Beaudoin, DRE - mbeaudoin@straphaels.org
or Suzanne Nelson, AFF Coordinator –
suzanne.nelson2@gmail.com

St. Raphael parishioners generously give for those in need

The St. Raphael Parish has had a Twinning Relationship with St. Martin of Tours for over 25 years this Thanksgiving. During the month of November, we hold three drives to help the less fortunate in St. Martin's faith community and general neighborhood of St. Martin's Parish. Although we had a slow start to collection canned and non-perishable foods and coats, parishioners, true their generosity, provided more than what was needed!

This year, we collected 339 frozen Turkeys and 187 boxes full of canned food items that are traditionally served at a Thanksgiving meal. All of these donations are then transported to 1908 N. Capitol Street, N.W. to assemble grocery gifts bags. They are given to families who are able

to cook the meal but often do not have enough money to purchase all the food typically prepared for Thanksgiving. Fr. Mike Kelley, Pastor at St. Martin's stated that his goal was to distribute enough frozen turkeys and groceries for 250 people! Together, we surpassed that goal and then some! Nothing goes to waste; Fr. Kelly distributes all the food he receives, and the community is so ever grateful for the help!

We all have so many blessings for which we praise God in His infinite mercy! It is always amazing how much we receive from our parishioners! Learning that we can trust in God's infinite mercy and love during times of great need is key to thanking Him!

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St. Raphael Honors Volunteer and Business Partner of the Year

By Tiffany Murphy

On Nov. 14, St. Raphael School announced the SRS Volunteer of the Year, Francine Krivka, and SRS Business Partner of the Year, Roger Pardo of Cisco Technology Solutions. Both Krivka and Pardo were honored at the Catholic Business Network of Montgomery County's annual gala on Nov. 22. “Francine has been instrumental in organizing and vitalizing our CYO program,” SRS Principal Teri Dwyer wrote in the nomination submission for CBN. “Francine also takes the lead on our biannual book fairs. We are most grateful for all the hats Francine wears, but the one that fits her best is SRS champion!” Of Pardo, Dwyer wrote: “With Roger's help, we have equipped St. Raphael School with Cisco routers and switches, allowing us to interconnect our computers and phones. In essence, with Roger's help Cisco has revamped our total school and parish communication.”

Congratulations to the team of SRS eighth graders for bringing home the third-place trophy from the 46th annual Middle School Math Contest hosted by



Francine Krivka, SRS volunteer of the year



Roger Pardo, SRS business partner of the year

Our Lady of Good Counsel High School. Without using calculators, they battled other area Catholic schools as they raced the clock to solve challenging math problems. This is the second math trophy won by SRS, which placed third in the competition in 2017. St. Raphael School, in conjunction with its parish and parents, provides children with an engaging and inspiring academic program infused with strong Christian morals and

virtues. The 2020-21 open houses for both preschool and K-8 are set for Jan. 13. Our parish priests, administration, faculty, and staff are committed to supporting the mission of the school and fostering the development of faith and reason in every child. If the open house date does not work for you, call 301-762-2143 to schedule a tour or request one online at www.straphaelschoolmd.org.

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STREAM

Con't from page 15

lab in small groups and spent time; learning how to code with Ozobot robots, practicing their hand-eye coordination by hammering pegs into a pumpkin, and experimenting by trying to build an earthquake resistant tower. They also had an opportunity to do a search-and-find

game, a seasonal craft or paint.

“These types of activities provide students a chance to use higher-level thinking skills and in doing so, they incorporate math, science, and technology skills,” said Natalicchio. “The ultimate goal is to get the students to think creatively, to solve problems and to do that working together.”

Natalicchio explained that as technology changes so rapidly, the

majority of jobs that students will be doing in the future, don't exist yet. “We are preparing them for the future, yet we don't know exactly what the future looks like,” said Natalicchio. “The best thing we can do is to provide these critical skills that they can apply in any situation, so that when they go into the workforce that know how to think creatively, solve problems and work well with their peers.”

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FLIGHT

Con't from page 15

and explore the forces of thrust, drag, lift and weight.

“This is the third year that my class has visited the Udvar-Hazy Center,” said Mrs. Beth Bieberich, Saint Peter's third grade teacher. “We are grateful that we have these

types of hands-on experiences where students can stand alongside historic aircraft and speak directly to subject matter experts. These experiences are very important in supporting what we learn in the classroom.”

Then, on October 29, the class welcomed guest speaker, Mr. Matt Bartlett, a pilot for Southwest Airlines. Bartlett discussed his career and answered questions. One

important takeaway for the students was learning that strong math skills are critical to becoming a pilot.

Students will be able to take what they have learned from these experiences and apply it in the classroom. The students are currently underway on designing, building and testing their own model gliders and their study of flight will continue into the spring when they will build rockets.

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Third grade students had several opportunities to learn about the science of flight including a special guest speaker and a field trip to the Udvar-Hazy Center.

