



Vine & Branches Area Faith Community

www.vineandbranchesafc.org

July 15, 2018
15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*I am the vine, you are
the branches.
Whoever remains in
me and I in him will
bear much fruit,
because without me
you can do nothing.
John 15:5*

Liturgies This Week

Mon.	July 16	No Mass <i>Isaiah 1:10-17; Matthew 10:34-11:1</i>
Tues.	July 17	8:30am Mass + Evelyn Weber (Spfd) <i>Isaiah 7:1-9; Matthew 11:20-24</i>
Wed.	July 18	8:00am Mass (Lamb) 10:00am Mass + Fidelis Steinke (SJLH) <i>Isaiah 10:5-7,13b-16; Matthew 11:25-27</i>
Thurs.	July 19	8:00am Mass (Sanb) <i>Isaiah 26:7-9,12-16-19; Matthew 11:28-30</i>
Fri.	July 20	8:30am Mass + Julie Hayden (Spfd) <i>Isaiah 38:1-6,21-22,7-8; Matthew 12:1-8</i>
Sat.	July 21	5:30pm Mass + Annette Feirer (Spfd) <i>Micah 2:1-5; Matthew 12:14-21</i>
Sun.	July 22	8:30am Mass + Gene Stoering Spfd) 10:30am Mass -AFC (Lamb) <i>Jeremiah 23:1-6; Ephesians 2:13-18; Mark 6:30-34</i>

◆ Mass Stipend \$10.00

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

✠ Saturday 4:45pm at St. Raphael

✠ Sunday 10:15am at St. Joseph

Baptism: Pre-baptism classes required- Contact Fr. Phil

Marriage: All Catholics are to contact their pastoral leader at least 6 months before their wedding

- ◆ **Prayer Chain** 723-6636, 723-5757, 723-5651, 723-5670
- ◆ **Good Neighbor Thrift Store 723-5778**
- ◆ 20 E Central, Springfield, MN
- ◆ **Office of Catholic Charities** 866-670-5163

Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday at 1:00pm

Church of St. Raphael & Area Office

20 W Van Dusen Street ~ 507-723-4137
Springfield MN 56087

Email: straphael@newulmtel.net

Church of St. Joseph

400 W 2nd Ave, PO Box 458
~507-752-7269

Lamberton MN 56152

& St. Thomas Oratory, Sanborn MN

Email stjoseph@centurylink.net

Pastor

Fr. Phil Schotzko~ Office Phone: 723-4141
phil.schotzko@newulmtel.net

Pastoral Associate

Sister Shirley Steines 507-752-7269

Parish Phone 507-752-7269

CCW Prayer Chain– Sister Shirley Steines

Parish Secretary

Marie Amsden & Mary Beth Hoffmann 723-4137
mamsden@newulmtel.net & mbfh66@gmail.com

Parish Bookkeeper

Connie Vogel 723-4137, fax 723-5409
cvogel@newulmtel.net

School Principal

Beth Steffl 723-4136
straysprincipal@newulmtel.net

School Secretary

Bev Krueger 723-4135
straysschooloffice@newulmtel.net

Faith Formation/Youth Ministry

Erin Hauth 723-4138
straysfaithformation@gmail.com

The Mission of the Vine & Branches Area Faith Community empowered by the Holy Spirit is to bear fruit that will last as Jesus commanded: by celebrating and proclaiming our Catholic faith as disciples of Jesus using our God-given gifts; by reaching out to and welcoming all people; and by centering our lives on the Eucharist, sacraments, scripture, service and the teaching of the Church.

From the Pastor

The Prophet Amos Revisited

I was born the ninth of ten children in a family of quite high achievers. There were plenty of older and bigger brothers and sisters who set a high bar of what was expected or at least common in this family. Their example along with the voices of mom and dad seemed to call me to be bigger than I felt on the inside. It didn't help that there were three boys at the end of the line of siblings and we slept together in the room called the "Little Boys Room"! I always carry a bit of the little boy within me.

Therefore I have struggled to "grow up" into the size of my body and into my role in the communities I have been called to serve. For a long time I did not realize the effect of my words either in positive support or in negative critique or correction. Even now when I am aware of that power I am often reluctant to use my voice because of a natural reserve and the history of old patterns set long ago.

I share this experience by way of encouragement to anyone who finds themselves in a place, time and position to speak out or speak up on behalf of Godly virtue and doing the right thing. Like Amos, the Old Testament prophet, none of us asked to be God's spokesperson. He would rather have continued to be a simple shepherd and gardener (Amos 7:14-15). However the Lord called him to be a prophet in a foreign land and to speak out against the powers that continued to oppress and take advantage of the poor. This was not his comfort zone. Yet, he did go and he did speak out and he did get kicked out of the sacred place of Bethel where he was exposing the internal moral corruption of Israel.

The situation in Israel was similar to our own time in America. Although we have recently celebrated our strength and freedoms it is not a secret that there are strong signs of moral decay and corruption in our society, not the least of which is the decline in the value of truth and justice. In Amos' time as in our own the pursuit of wealth and power took precedent over protection of the rights of the poor. The rich and privileged in the royal and priestly classes were blind to the cries of the poor and Amos held out little hope that they would hear his voice and change their ways.

What about us? Are we still listening to the prophetic voices in our midst? Or are we blinded by our privileged middle class comforts and not willing to look at how our materialism and our consumptive life style is built on the backs of the poor and is unsustainable going forward?

Perhaps like Amos one who speaks such challenging words will not be very welcome around here. However, I speak to myself as much as anyone else as I realize that I too have been enchanted by the false promises of what money can buy within the cultural presumption that economic growth is the ultimate value. Does that not sound like idolatry?? It seems to me that Jesus taught that LOVE was the greatest of all values and gifts. He even called it a commandment.

~Fr. Phil Schotzko

From Sister Shirley ~

This coming weekend, July 21st and July 22nd I will be with my community, the School Sisters of Notre Dame at Good Counsel Hill in Mankato. On Saturday evening we gather as a community for Community Prayer and social with our thirty Jubilations from our Mankato Campus. Sunday morning we rejoice with our 30 Jubilations as we celebrate the 10:30 Eucharist and a festive dinner following the liturgy. We also remember three of our sisters who are rejoicing in heaven celebrating 80 years of fidelity who were called home to God after celebrating their 100th year of life this past year. I will be returning to Lamberton later Sunday afternoon.

I appreciate everyone who has volunteered their time and energy in keeping the parish facilities and grounds clean and beautiful this summer. In checking the sign up list we are in need of more volunteers. Hopefully you will have time and bring a friend to volunteer once again during the coming months. Thanks again for your generosity.

As we continue to appreciate summer season and vacation I am reminded of the four seeds of compassion that Sister Joyce Rupp shares in her book, Boundless Compassion. The seeds are **nonjudgement**, **nonviolence**, **forgiveness** and **mindfulness**. Yes, I continue to explore how the seeds I planted in my garden earlier this summer are growing and will hopefully produce fruit soon. Hopefully the seeds of compassion are growing in the garden of my inner being and will produce fruit.

May the Gardener of my Inner Being enrich me to allow compassion to grow and be fruitful.

Peace and love during these weeks of summer.

~Church of St. Joseph~

Ministry Schedule Sunday July 22, 2018

Ushers Justin Stafford, Shawn Holman, Jason Axford, Austin Axford

Lector Anthony Axford

Gifts Shawn & Mary Holman Family

EMC Gordy Wille, Mary Holman, Kris Redman

Servers Aiden Holman, Joseph Strock

Counters Mary Arnoldi, Jenna Stafford

Video Candi VanMeveren

Last Week's Parish Revenue-St. Joseph	
Adult Envelopes	544.00
Student Envelopes	6.50
Loose Plate	145.00
Peter's Pence	206.00
Total Income	\$901.50

St. Joseph- Contribution Budget July 1, 2018- June 30, 2019			
	Annual Budget	Budget to Date	Received to Date
Adults	\$60,500.00	\$2,384.62	\$1,719.00
Student	\$900.00	\$34.62	\$16.50
Loose Plate	\$4,200.00	\$211.54	\$253.00

Faith Formation Teachers

We invite you to consider becoming a Faith Formation teacher or substitute teacher beginning in the fall. As part of the preparation you will need to attend the Virtus Training Program which is a three hour session. These sessions are held periodically throughout the diocese. Please check the diocesan website to find a training session close to our area. There is also a form on the diocesan website for you to complete. Please contact me if you are interested in becoming a teacher or being a substitute teacher. It takes all of us to build our area faith community

This week we remember these people in our prayers.
Karen & Jeff Strock and Ellie & Frank Trebesch



Our Shepherd of the field:

Msgr. John Richter

~Please also pray for those in Need ~

Dolores Berg	Pat Dauer	Mary Arnoldi
Kathleen Stillo	Jim Berg	Kay Weisbrich
Ken Arnoldi	Jack Reiner	Mille Bellig

Coming Events

July 15	10:30am	Mass
July 17	6:30am	Bible Study
	6:30pm	AFC Meeting (Lamberton)
July 18	8:00am	Mass - Celebrate Father Phil's Birthday
July 19	8:00am	Mass at St. Thomas Church
July 22	10:30am	Mass

Happy Birthday, Father Phil!
Father Phil's Birthday is Friday, July 20th. We will celebrate after Mass on Wednesday morning, July 18th. Hopefully you will be able to join us for Mass and for treats following Mass to celebrate with Father Phil.

We will also be celebrating after the 8:00am Mass on Thursday in Sanborn. We praise God for the gift and life of Father Phil and for his gift to our Area Faith Community.

The Red Cross Blood Drive will be at the Lamberton Legion on Thursday, July 19, 2018 from 12 noon to 6 PM. Please consider donating blood that day. If you would like to make an appointment or have any questions, please call Deb Furth at (507)752-7214 or (507)227-3293.

~Church of St. Raphael~

Prayer Corner



Please remember in your prayers:

✠ Our Shepherd of the Field: Rev. Anthony Hesse

Please pray for our parishioners this week~

- Sun: Mike Lang
- Mon: Patrick & Kim Lang
- Tues: Peter & Kori Lang
- Wed: Kenneth & Linda Lang
- Thurs: Steve & Gina Lang
- Fri: Steve Lang
- Sat: Teresa Lang

Weekly Candle Intentions (\$2.00 offering)

- Special Intention ·Special Intention VM
- Special Intention YM

Check out Channel 8 –Cablecast

* **St. Raphael Sunday Mass**

Every Tuesday at 5:00 pm & Friday at 6:00 pm.

* **The Faithful Traveler:** Episode 9: St. Alphonsus Church

Every Tuesday at 11:00am & Thursday at 7:00pm.
Episode 8

Good Neighbor Thrift Store

July 17-21

50% off Books, Games, Puzzles and Toys

Please check appropriate box (es) and return in the weekend collection

St Joseph Lambertton St Raphael Springfield

- new in parish moving out of parish
- new address new phone number
- new/change of email would like visiting

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

“God provides assurance that we don’t need to doubt. Trusting him is the antidote to doubt, and trust is the foundation of our faith.”

DR. GREGORY BOTTARO
Taken from *The Mindful Catholic*



It is time to start thinking about the **St. Raphael Fall Festival**, which will be on **Sunday, September 16** this year.

Some things the committee would like to start out with this year are:

- **The Deadline for Silent Auction Basket Donations is August 31st.** They need the extra time to organize and sort items to make a more fluid silent auction.
- If you feel you may have been missed or would like to donate to the Raffle or for either the Silent Auction or Live Auction, please contact the Parish Office (723-4137)



You are invited to join the Men of this Parish this summer for morning Bible Study on Fridays from 6:00-7:00am in the Gathering Space. Please come anytime you are able. We will start the That Man Is You program again in the Fall.**St.**

Many times we may not be able to find help, but there is never a time when we can't give it.

~Church of St. Raphael~

Meetings and Activities

July 20	6:00-7:00am	Men's Bible Study
	9:00am-4:00pm	Adoration
July 24	1:30pm	Good Neighbor Thrift Store Meeting
July 25	1:30pm	Administrative Council Meeting

Last week's Parish Revenue

Adult Envelopes	\$3,515.00
High School Gr. 7-12	-0-
Children through Gr. 6	6.00
Loose Plate	186.00
Capital Improvement	10.00
DUF	60.00
Peter's Pence	384.00
Adopt a Student	20.00
Air conditioning	50.00
San Lucas	100.00
CD Income	244.58
Good Neighbor Thrift Store	717.94
Total Income	\$5,293.52

Catholic Education Support

St. Raphael School's Mission is to bring the students to a deeper relationship with Jesus while providing quality education. We believe every child should have the opportunity to receive a Catholic Education, even if the family cannot afford it.

Even with your generous support of our Adopt-a-Student program, some families have not been able to pay for their child's tuition for the 2017/2018 school year.

· Student 1 = \$438 · Student 2 = \$445 · Student 3 = \$603
 · Student 4 = \$561 · Student 5 = \$480 · Student 6 = \$805

If you would like to help assure these students continue to receive a Catholic education and greater success in life, please put your gift in an envelope marked with the student number and drop in the collection plate or the drop box in the school hallway.

~Thank you for all your support of our School.

The 400 Club Winner this Week

#88 David Feirer \$150.00

Contribution Budget July 1, 2018- June 30, 2019

	Annual Budget	Budget to Date	Received to Date
Adults	\$255,000.00	\$9,807.70	\$7,430.00
Gr. 7-12	\$1000.00	\$28.86	-0-
Pre K-6	\$2000.00	\$76.94	22.00

~Serving next Funeral will be Group I~

July 21 & 22, 2018

	5:30pm	8:30am
Servers	Zoey Riederer	Noah Vogel
	Noah Riederer	TJ Reindl
	Kaylee Hillesheim	Brayden Sturm
Lector	Jack Hartjes	Jim Miesen
EMC	Jack Hartjes	Jim Miesen
	Laura Bast	Deacon Barry
	Volunteer	Donna Krueger
Accompanist	TBD	TBD
Song Leader	TBD	TBD
Rosary	Donna Ebnet	Jim Miesen
Head Usher	*David Roiger	*Mike Vogel
	George Tauer	Brian Veenstra
	Keith Riederer	Richard Sturm
	Volunteer	Volunteer
Communion SJLH	Jack & Marlene Hartjes	
Videographer	Julieann Reindl	

Mark your Calendars for Farm Fest

◆ **Farm Fest– August 6-9 ~ Sign up sheets are in the church pews and the big one is in the Gathering Space.**



~St. Raphael School~



**Schwan's
Cares™**

You are invited to support our
**Schwan's Cares Fundraiser
for St. Raphael's School
Smart Boards updates!**

Shop online from over 300 high-quality foods that go from the freezer to table in minutes. With Schwan's foods, a quality meal is always within reach.

When you order by October 21, 2018, a percentage of your order will be contributed towards our fundraising goal!

Order Online: schwans-cares.com/c/38326 Click "Shop Now"

Order by Phone: Call 1-855-870-7208 and provide Campaign ID 38326

~Upcoming Area Events~

"You are invited to the annual Parish Dinner and Festival at the Church of the Japanese Martyrs, Leavenworth, MN on Sunday, July 29th. The day will begin with a 10:00 am mass with special music, followed by a buffet chicken and ham and homemade dressing dinner with all the trimmings. Dinner is being served in the air-conditioned church hall from 11:00 am until 1:30 pm. Take out orders will also be available.

On Tuesday, July 3, a large area of the Diocese of New Ulm was subject to flooding, flood damages and a few home and apartment evacuations. Parishes and communities in Lyon, Lincoln and Redwood Counties and particularly the communities of Marshall, Redwood Falls, Tracy, Wabasso, Walnut Grove were impacted by 7" to as much as 11" inches of rain on soils that were already quite saturated.

The Diocese has applied to Catholic Charities USA for a \$10,000 emergency assistance grant to help low-income families displaced from their homes by these heavy rains. Similarly, Bishop LeVoir has asked that parishes in the diocese take up a second collection on the weekend of July 14 -15 for those people without resources to immediately recover from being displaced by this July 3 flooding. Donations can also be made via a credit card accessing Catholic Charities on the diocesan webpage.

[An Application for Storm Relief Assistance from July 3, 2018 Flooding](#) can be found in the Gathering Space.



Stuff The Backpacks

United Way Backpack Project

Did you know last year more than 540 kids in Brown County received a backpack filled with school supplies from this project. Please help by donating these supplies to the box in the Gathering Space. They will be picked up on Thursday, July 26.

Supplies needed:

- #2 Pencils
- Folders
- Spiral Notebooks– wide ruled
- Boxes of facial tissue– we need a lot
- 4 oz bottles of white glue
- Crayola broad tip markers– classic colors
- Crayola thin tip markers– classic colors
- Crayola Colored Pencils-sets of 12
- 24 Pack crayons
- Glue sticks
- Fiskars Kids scissors– pointed
- Plastic Pencil boxes
- Pencil bags
- Yellow highlighters
- Red pens
- Hand sanitizer



Don't stay away from church...

- ◆ Because it rains. You go to work in the rain.
- ◆ Because it is hot. So is the golf course.
- ◆ Because it is cold. It's warm and friendly inside.
- ◆ Because you are poor. There is no admission charge.
- ◆ Because you are rich. That can be cured.
- ◆ Because no one invited you. People go to the movies without being asked.
- ◆ Because you have children. God loves them.
- ◆ Because there are hypocrites. You associate with them daily.
- ◆ Because you have company. They will admire your loyalty if you bring them along, or ask them to wait 'til you get back.
- ◆ Because your clothes are not expensive. Churches are not supposed to be fashion shows.
- ◆ Because the Church always wants money. So does your grocer.
- ◆ Because you have plenty of time to go later. Are you sure?