

St. Joseph, Lamberton

# Vine & Branches Area Faith Community

March 15, 2015  
4th Sunday of Lent



St. Raphael, Springfield

## Liturgies This Week

Mon.	Mar. 16	No Mass <i>Isaiah 65:17-21; John 4:43-54</i>
Tue.	Mar. 17	8:30 am - MM Compassionis (Spfd) <i>Ezekiel 47:1-9,12; John 5:1-16</i>
Wed.	Mar. 18	8:00am Mass + Clara Kastner (Lamb) 10:00am Mass + Leonard Roiger (SJLH) <i>Isaiah 49:8-15; John 5:17-30</i>
Thur.	Mar. 19	8:00am + Leroy & Margaret Fox (Sanb) <i>2 Samuel 7:4-5a,12-14a,16; Romans 4:13,16-18,22; Matthew 1:16,18-21,24a</i>
Fri.	Mar. 20	8:30am + Albert Platz (Spfd) <i>Wisdom 2:1a,12-22; John 7:1-2,10,25-30</i>
Sat.	Mar. 21	5:30pm Mass + Oscar & Barbara Juenemann & family <i>Jeremiah 11:18-20; John 7:40-53</i>
Sun.	Mar. 22	7:30am Mass + Vernon & Leona Platz (Spfd) 9:00am Mass + John Brennan (Lamb) 10:30am Mass - People of AFC (Spfd) <i>Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 5:7-9; John 12:20-33</i>

**Bulletin Deadline: Tuesday at 5:00pm**

**Diocesan Website:** [www.dnu.org](http://www.dnu.org)

**Catholic Charities of Diocese** 1-866-670-5163

**Baptism:** Pre-baptism classes required.

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

**Good Neighbor Thrift Store 723-5778** 20 E Central, Springfield, MN [www.facebook.com/goodneighborthriftstore](http://www.facebook.com/goodneighborthriftstore)

**St. Raphael School Facebook Page**

[www.facebook.com/pages/St-Raphael-Catholic-School-Spfd/151560478323433](http://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Raphael-Catholic-School-Spfd/151560478323433)

**Mass Stipend \$10.00**

## Church of St. Joseph

PO Box 458  
Lamberton MN 56152  
& St. Thomas Oratory, Sanborn MN

Email [stjoseph@centurylink.net](mailto:stjoseph@centurylink.net)

**Pastoral Associate**

**Sister Shirley Steines 507-752-7269**

**Parish phone** 507-752-7269

**CCW Prayer Chain**— Sister Shirley Steines

## Church of St. Raphael

112 W Van Dusen Street  
Springfield MN 56087

## **Pastor**

Fr. Phil Schotzko 723-4141

[phil.schotzko@newulmtel.net](mailto:phil.schotzko@newulmtel.net)

Email: [staphael@newulmtel.net](mailto:staphael@newulmtel.net)

Website: [www.straphaelmn.org](http://www.straphaelmn.org)

**Prayer Chain** 723-6636 723-9940, 723-5757, 723-5651

## **Faith Formation/Youth Ministry**

Katie Prokosch 723-4138

[straysfaithformation@gmail.com](mailto:straysfaithformation@gmail.com)

## **Parish Secretary**

Marie Amsden & Mary Beth Hoffmann 723-4137

[mamsden@newulmtel.net](mailto:mamsden@newulmtel.net)

## **Parish Bookkeeper**

Connie Vogel 723-4137

[cvogel@newulmtel.net](mailto:cvogel@newulmtel.net)

## **School Principal**

Jennifer Fischer 723-4136

[straysprincipal@newulmtel.net](mailto:straysprincipal@newulmtel.net)

## **School Secretary**

Bev Krueger 723-4135

[straysschooloffice@newulmtel.net](mailto:straysschooloffice@newulmtel.net)

Website: [www.straphaelmn.org](http://www.straphaelmn.org) and click on school

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*** ~ Today I want to share with you an article that recently appeared in the Star Tribune, newspaper. When I am tired and wishing there were more priests to share the vision and the work of ministering in this world, this is inspiring and hopeful news.

I pray you will take the time to read it and see how it applies to your life no matter where you are in your life vocation choices. Please share it with a son or relative or young friend whom you could see following the Lord in a way similar to these young priests. Please continue to pray for vocations!!!

***Fr. Phil Schotzko***

***“A Youth Movement in the Priesthood” from the Star Tribune***

What is Minnesotans’ image of a Catholic priest in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis today? Many likely think of gray-haired men performing empty rituals for dwindling congregations in the shadow of the recent clergy sex-abuse scandal. They may imagine young men recoiling from the prospect of a life of “thou shalt not,” leaving seminaries empty.

Folks with this view probably haven’t met the Rev. Andrew Brinkman, 29, assistant pastor of Nativity of Our Lord Church in St. Paul. As a boy, Brinkman dreamed of becoming a professional skateboarder and thought being a priest was “the scariest thing I’d ever heard of.” Today, he still rides his board weekly, doing “360 flips” while wearing his priest’s collar.

Or how about the Rev. Marcus Milless, 27, of All Saints Church in Lakeville? At 15, an acquaintance asked him to help with a child with a disability. “I was 4 foot 11, weighed 85 pounds and had a big mouth,” he says. His first thought was mercenary: “How much money could I make?” But over time, his work of feeding, bathing and caring for children with disabilities taught him the power of love and helped lead him to the priesthood.

Then there’s the Rev. Spencer Howe, 28, of St. John Neumann Church in Eagan. As an adolescent, he says, he was a rebel, searching for something on which to stake his life. On a trip to England at age 18, he was inspired by the English martyrs of the 16th century — priests who risked their lives to bring the sacraments to others in a hostile environment.

“I realized this was a lot more dramatic than I had thought — it was not ‘a church for grandmothers,’ but had a kind of fighting spirit,” he says. “Standing before a cathedral, looking up at that great edifice of faith, I recognized the call extended even to me.”

These twenty-something priests — and others like them — are the future face of the Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. In an increasingly secular culture, they have their work cut out for them, but they say they are undaunted.

Today, almost 140 young men are discerning the priesthood at St. John Vianney College Seminary at the University of St. Thomas. The St. Paul Seminary has nearly 100 seminarians, who flock here from dioceses around the country.

In many ways, today’s young priests resemble their peers in the millennial generation. They play Ultimate Frisbee, jog, or play the drums. Originally, many aspired to become professionals, such as architects or accountants. But in the end they chose not an occupation but a vocation — a comprehensive way of life. Their wholehearted desire to challenge the prevailing culture, and their vow of celibacy, mark them as cultural radicals.

Howe — with a wary smile — puts it this way. “I’m a walking contradiction, a walking perplexity. I’m living a life that the larger society says isn’t possible.”

“Many Minnesota Catholics think they know what to expect from clergy — a now-familiar mix of soft social criticism and gentle moral encouragement,” says Robert Kennedy, chair of the Department of Catholic Studies at St. Thomas. “But many of the younger clergy take a very different approach. Their voices will not be soothing and predictable, but challenging and supported by personal witness. They are out for souls, not social change.”

How do these young men characterize their mission?

They say they have experienced the life-transforming love of Jesus Christ, and the truth and joy of the Gospel, and they want — more than anything — to share it with others. Christ said he came to “proclaim freedom to captives, to heal the brokenhearted, to set at liberty the oppressed,” so that humans “might have life, and have it more abundantly.” These young priests want to be instruments in that work.

But wait. “Freedom?” “Liberty?” Doesn’t the church — with what many view as its constricting rules and doctrines — stand for the opposite?

Not at all, says Brinkman. It was precisely his love of freedom that led him both to skateboarding and to the Catholic priesthood.

When he fell in love with skateboarding at age 9, he explains, he yearned for the freedom to achieve his ultimate goal — the ability to do the difficult tricks that looked effortless when performed by highly skilled skateboarders. But achieving that freedom to fly on the board required discipline and self-sacrifice.

It’s the same in any domain of life, he says. To do an activity of importance well — from hitting a three-point shot on the basketball court to playing a Beethoven sonata on the piano — demands sacrifice, and entails saying “no” to other things along the way. Paradoxically, it’s this self-denial that equips — that liberates — a person to achieve real progress toward his or her ultimate goal.

The church’s rules for living are the same. They are not intended to punish or constrict, but to provide a structure that helps us overcome our weakness and self-absorption — a structure of faith in which love and “abundant life” can flourish.

Does that mean we sometimes need to give up things that are pleasurable in the moment? Sure, says Brinkman. “But the reason we say no to those things is that we’ve said yes to something greater.” **(Continued on Page 7 of Bulletin)**

# ~Church of St. Joseph~

## Ministry Schedule March 22, 2015

**Greeters/Ushers:** Artie & Jackie Imker, Tony Riley, Kevin Zimmermann  
**Lector:** Jeff Strock  
**Gifts:** Artie & Jackie Imker  
**EMC:** Lorraine Zempel, Kris Redman, Jackie Imker  
**Servers:** Elizabeth Strock, Joseph Strock  
**Counters:** Kris Redman, Lorraine Zempel  
**Video:** Charlie Furth

**This week we remember these people in our prayers.**  
*Bill & Sara Schaffran and Lee & Beth Schaffran*

## **~Please also pray for those in Need ~**

Joan Kelly                      Gary Weisbrich  
 Kathleen Stillo              Elmer Baune  
 Rev Jeremy Kucera      Delores Berg  
 Sal Stillo                      Kay Weisbrich  
 Clay Churchill



## **March 8, 2015 Contributions**

Adult Envelopes	\$1,190.00
Student Envelopes	1.00
Loose Plate	36.00
Black & Indian Mission	25.00
Easter Flowers	50.00
Ash Wednesday	2.00
<b>Total Income to Parish</b>	<b>\$1,304.00</b>

## Coming Events

**Sun. Mar. 15** 7:00pm St. Paul Way of the Cross  
**Tues. Mar. 17** **Happy St. Patrick's Day**  
 6:30am Bible Study  
**Wed. Mar. 18** **8:00 am Mass**  
 6:30 pm Way of the Cross  
 6:45 pm Faith Formation  
**Good Friday** **Way of the Cross presented by**  
**Confirmation Class at 8:00 pm at St. Joseph.**  
**Everyone is welcome**

## St. Thomas, Sanborn

**March 19th Mass 8:00 am**  
**Lenten Prayer Service at 7:00 pm**



**Looking for members to join us for our Easter Choir.** WE will be singing on Holy Thurs and Easter Sunday. Practice will be after Mass on Sunday March 29—about 1 hour. This would be a GREAT opportunity for our JR/HS students to use their talents. Also, if you have NEVER sang in the choir—don't let that stop you either—don't just "let someone else do it". Please contact Sue at 752-7065. Thanks!!

**St. Mary's— Tracy Parish Dinner, Sunday March 22.**  
 Serving from 11-1 in the parish hall. Menu includes roast beef, roast pork, homemade mashed potatoes & gravy, green bean casserole, rolls, relishes, pie, cake, milk & coffee. Take outs available. Adults \$9.00, K-6 \$4.00 7 Preschool free. Raffle at 1pm and Silent Auction 11-1:30.

**St Paul's Church, Walnut Grove— Spring Luncheon.**  
**April 12 11:00-1:00pm.** Serving BBQ pork sandwich, hot turkey sandwich, potato salad, baked beans. Assorted desserts, pies, ice cream cones. Lemonade & coffee. Prices ala carte

## **Mark your calendars**

Omelet Breakfast served by St. Joseph Parishioners will be Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at the Lamberton Legion. Additional information will be shared later.

## **Journey of Love**

**Fourth Week of Lent: The Deed of Love: The Heart of Love.** Make a list of at least ten people whom you will pray for daily. Your list may include more than ten and maybe even some who have died. Include your friends, your enemies, those you don't like. Forgive them if they have wronged you, and ask forgiveness if you have wronged them.

## **Rice Bowls for Lent**

There are a number of rice bowls in the back of the church in a basket for your Lenten sacrifices. Please take one. We will be collecting these at the Holy Thursday Service.



*Sister Shirley*

# ~Church of St. Raphael~

## Prayer Corner



*Please remember in your prayers:*

- † Our Shepard of the Field Rev. Dennis E. Becker
- † That the Church be healed of all division.
- † That the leaders of nations promote peace and respect the dignity of all peoples.
- † That all who care for the sick, especially those near death, be a radiant sign of God's abiding love.
- † For our own community of faith, that we may welcome the homeless, the lost and the wanderer, recognizing that Jesus himself lived without a permanent place.

† ***Please pray for our parishioners this week~***

Sun: Kenneth & Kathleen Wenisch

Mon : Kevin Wenisch

Tues: Loretta Wenisch

Wed: Stephen & Flo Wenisch

Thurs: Clement & Donna Wersal

Fri: Dennis & Barbara Wersal

Sat: Michael Wersal

***Weekly Candle Intentions*** (\$2.00 offering)

- |                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| ·Special Intention ·    | Special Intention BV    |
| ·Special Intention JH · | Special Intention MB    |
| ·Special Intention CDW  | Special Intention NR    |
| ·Special Intention N    | Special Intention M & M |
| ·Special Intention D    |                         |

For CCW spiritual adoption of Father Phil.

### Spiritual Adoption- Father Phil

A good practice during Lent is to go to confession, frequently. Let us be grateful for the opportunities that our pastor, Father Phil, gives us to come close to Jesus and experience his Mercy. Let us spend time in this season to pray for Father and his intentions.

*O, my God. I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins because I dread the loss of Heaven and the pains of hell. But most of all, because they offend Thee, my God, Who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to confess my sins, to do penance, and to amend my life. Amen*

### Hungering for Peace

**We journey with CRS Rice Bowl** to Lebanon to be present to a people who themselves are on a journey. Here we meet a family of Syrian refugees, a family perhaps not so unlike our own. We are challenged through our almsgiving this week to reach out to those who are forced to flee their homes, who are seeking shelter in a land of peace.



### Good Neighbor Thrift Store

**March 17 -21 75% off Clothing.**

Volunteers needed to help out on Monday March 30 starting at 8:30 am. If you are able to help out give us a call at 723 - 5778. We are accepting donations of Spring/ Summer Items in New, Nearly New Condition. Sorry we cannot accept Electrical Items, Car Seats, High Chairs, Playpens and Cribs

**Catholic Relief Services Collection** Thank you for your generous support of the Catholic Relief Services Collection. Through your generosity families will be reunited, valuable skills will be taught to those seeking a better life, and vital humanitarian needs will be met.



**Knights of Columbus** Meeting on Thursday, March 19 at 6:30 in the Holy Family Room.

**The Council of Catholic Women** will meet at 6:30 in the basement of the church on Thursday, March 19. We will look forward to hearing Elizabeth Schmitz's experience attending the Pro Life Rally out east. All are welcome!!



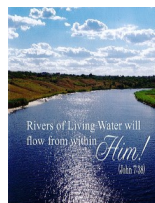
**The Diocesan Chrism Mass** will be celebrated on March 26th at 7:00pm, Church of St. Mary's in Willmar.

**Coffee Connection is looking for help after Masses, especially the 10:30 mass**  
**Contact the office for more details**



### The 2014 Diocesan Ministries Appeal

**Thank You to all who have given to the Diocesan Ministries Appeal. Be assured that your gift will benefit those ministries that are vital to our church. We have 75 Donations totaling \$17,143.87.**



### ✓ Media Check on Channel 8

- ✓ **St. Raphael Sunday Mass** (viewed on Channel 8) Every Tuesday at 5:00 pm & Friday at 6:00 pm.
- ✓ **Catholicism on Campus, Episode 4** Every Tuesday at 10:30 am & Thursday at 7:00pm

# ~Church of St. Raphael~

## Meetings and Activities– Also see Calendar on Website

Mar. 15	<b>3:00pm</b>	<b>Communal Penance Service- St. Raphael</b>
	6:45-8:15pm	FF Gr. 7-10-Reconciliation
Mar. 16	1:00pm	Craft Ladies Meet
	2:15pm	Stations of the Cross
	3:30-5:00 pm	Level 3 Atrium
Mar. 17		St. Patrick's Day
Mar. 18	<b>6:30pm</b>	<b>Kindergarten Round Up</b>
	3:30-4:45pm	FF Class/Level 2 Atrium-Reconciliation
	7:00-8:15pm	FF Confirmation- grade 11- Reconciliation
Mar. 19	3:30-4:45pm	Level 1 Atrium
	6:30pm	KC Mtg.-HFR
	6:30pm	CCW Meeting-church basement
Mar. 20		First Day of Spring
	8:00am-4:00pm	Eucharistic Adoration
Mar. 21	4:45-5:10pm	Reconciliation
Mar. 22	6:45-8:15pm	FF. Gr. 7-10
	11:00am	St. Joseph's Oratory Clements- Feast Day Mass
	9:00-1:00pm	Pancake Breakfast Clements Legion
Mar.23	1:00pm	Craft Ladies Meet
	3:30-5:00pm	Level 3 Atrium
	7:00pm	Prayer Shawl Group
Mar. 24	6:30pm	AFC Pastoral Council at Lamberton
Mar. 25	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Anointing of the Sick-SJLH</b>
	3:30-4:45pm	FF Class/ Level 2 Atrium
	7:00-8:15pm	FF Confirmation- grade 11
Mar. 26	3:30-4:45pm	Level 1 Atrium
	1:00pm	Administrative Council Mtg.
	7:00pm	<b>Chrism Mass/Church of St. Mary in Willmar</b>
Mar. 27	9:15am	<b>Stations of the Cross after Mass</b>
Mar. 28	4:45-5:10pm	Reconciliation
Mar. 29	8:00-Noon	Palm Sunday Brunch Sponsored by C.U.F.
	6:45-8:15pm	FF Gr. 7-10

March 21 & 22, 2015			
	5:30pm	7:30am	10:30am
<b>Servers</b>	Devin Johnson	Anthony Roiger	Curtis Tauer
	Kadin Johnson	Luke Roiger	Sylvan Tauer
	Ashtin Johnson	_____	_____
<b>Lector</b>	Lynn Hoffmann	Bob Sturm	Jim Miesen
<b>EMC</b>	Lynn Hoffmann	Karen Brandl	Jim Miesen
	Cathy Ochs	<b>Volunteer</b>	Becky Veenstra
	Jack Hartjes	_____	Chris Tauer
<b>Accompanist</b>	Sharon Pieschel	Kathleen G.	Sharon Pieschel
<b>Song Leader</b>	Mary Hoffmann	David Goedtko	Jackie Reindl
<b>Rosary</b>	Julie Lassegard	Frank Boyle	Jim Miesen
<b>Head Usher</b>	Richard Dauer	JD Davidson	Justin Roiger
	Keith Riederer	Joseph Miesen	John Moritz
	Terry Ochs	Tim Kuisle	Mike Vogel
	Greg Roiger	Karla Kuisle	Brian Veenstra
<b>Communion SJLH</b>	Jack & Marlene Hartjes		
<b>Videographer</b>	James Hoffmann		

**Stations of the Cross** will be held on Monday, March 16th, at 2:15pm, with St. Raphael's School Children. Everyone is welcome to join them for this very special prayer.



## Communal Penance Service

**March 15th** 3 pm Springfield - Many Priests

**March 22nd** 3 pm Sleepy Eye - Many Priests

**March 29th** 3 pm Wabasso-Many Priests



Last week's Parish Revenue	
Adult Envelopes	\$3,766.50
High School Gr. 7-12	1.00
Children through Gr. 6	55.00
Loose Plate	456.85
School Red Heart	100.00
Capital Improvement	50.00
Easter Flowers	185.00
Catholic Relief	5.00
Candles	4.00
Fuel & Heat	20.00
Good Neighbor Thrift Store	373.27
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$5,016.62</b>

*Serving next Funeral will be Group B*

**Pick up your Men's Dinner Tickets in the Gathering Space.**

## Contribution Budget July 1, 2014 June 30, 2015

	Annual Budget	Budget to Date	Received to Date
<b>Adults</b>	\$265,000	\$173,269.10	\$172,040.38
<b>Gr. 7-12</b>	\$700.00	\$457.64	\$400.81
<b>Gr. K-6</b>	\$400.00	\$261.46	\$1,344.76

## The 400 Club Winner This Week

#17 Lynn Hoffmann \$150.00

# ~Church of St. Raphael~

**It's time once again to start cleaning your closets** for the Spring Catholic United Financial Rummage Sale. Which will be held Friday, April 10th & Saturday, April 11th. Please be sure your donations are good, clean and useable. No electrical items will be accepted. Donation of rummage may be brought to school, beginning on Tuesday, April 7th from 6:30am—4:00pm. Please use the back kitchen door. Rummage must be placed on the stage. Extra paper or plastic bags are also needed.

**Saturday, April 25, 2015—**

**New Ulm Diocesan CCW 56th Annual Convention  
"Proclaim the Gospel"**

**Council of Catholic Women Convention** will be held on Saturday, April, 25, 2015 at St. Aloysius in Olivia. Keynote Speaker will be Elizabeth Ficocelli presentation, 'A Journey in Grace: My Conversion Story' will leave you filled with joy & hope. A Faith Filled Day! Contact your CCW President or Parish Office for a registration form. For more details, see poster on the Kiosk in the Gathering Space.



## Catholic United Matching Grant



**Palm Sunday Brunch**  
**Sunday, March 29, 2015**

**8:00 am-12:00 pm**

**St Raphael Auditorium  
Springfield**



<b>Menu:</b> Egg Bake(4 varieties)	Adults	\$9.00
Cinnamon & Caramel Rolls	6-10	\$5.00
Fruit, Beverage	Preschool	\$1.00

Sponsored by St Boniface Catholic United Council #035  
Proceeds benefit St Raphael School &  
Faith Formation Program  
**Everyone Welcome!**

**Sunday March 22, 11:00am, St. Joseph's Oratory of Clements** will be having their 9th annual Feast Day Mass, All are welcome!

**Sunday March 22, The Sons of the American Legion** will be having a Pancake breakfast at the Clements Legion Hall from 9 am to 1 pm.

## Annual Catholic Order of Foresters Men's Sausage Dinner at St. Raphael's Church School Auditorium

**\$1500 Matching Grant  
from COF**

Will be held on **Sunday, April 12, 2015**  
**From 10:00 am until 1:00pm**

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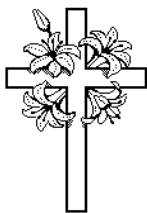


At this time the committee is seeking cash donations, due to the fact that we do not have a federally inspected locker nearby, **cash donations** will help pay for the meat. Please contact the Chairman

Randy Sturm (507) 220-4874 or

Mike Vogel (507)920-5694

**All proceeds will go to St. Raphael Church**



## Flowers for Easter

If you who would like to donate flowers for our Easter environment in honor of or in memory of your loved ones, please complete the form below and return it in the collection basket.

In honor / memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

By \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

☐ St Joseph Lamberton

☐ St Raphael Springfield



## Continued

The twenty-something priests explain their vow of celibacy in terms of freedom as well. Though the larger society may find it hard to understand, they make this “gift of self” joyfully and willingly, they say, because it frees them to devote their entire lives to the service of others.

That service can take many forms. For example, the Rev. Evan Koop, 33 — now Hispanic chaplain at two Twin Cities-area parishes — lived in Venezuela when he was preparing for the priesthood. There he often ministered to the poorest and sickest people in the barrios.

At times, people shed tears at the mere sight of his collar. “They saw it as the presence of God coming to meet them in their most desperate moments,” he recalls. The opportunity to be an instrument of God’s love in this way was both humbling and deeply fulfilling, he says.

The poor aren’t the only ones who need the Gospel. All humans struggle with suffering, death, loneliness and rejection, and religious faith can bring hope, peace and joy even when despair seems nearest.

No one knows this better than Milless. At 21, he was diagnosed with cancer and endured 29 chemo and radiation treatments. Two years later, he had another brush with death — a horrific car accident in which he was extricated from his vehicle by the Jaws of Life and airlifted to the hospital. He has seen firsthand the remarkable sustaining power of faith and hopes his personal experience gives him the insight to comfort others, he says.

The mission is great. But has the recent clergy sex-abuse scandal prompted these young priests to question their vocation?

“I am grieved and saddened and offended by the atrocious acts that some of my brother priests have committed in the past,” says the Rev. Marc Pavaglio, 29, of Our Lady of Grace Church in Edina. “All the more so I believe that God is calling me to be as holy as I can be, so I can be an agent of beauty and light and truth — especially to those who may have been wounded by the acts of a priest.”

“My classmates and I have not let this define our life as priests,” adds Howe. “The priestly life is defined by Christ, who called us, ordained us, sends us.”

The work of the twenty-something priests will likely focus heavily on evangelization.

“We are living in a culture in which the thought of God has been almost completely obscured,” notes Koop. “And when the spiritual perspective is truncated, something integral to the human heart is lost.”

In his view, this presents “an opportunity as a priest to be a signpost of the presence of God in the world.”

“When I’m flying on a plane and people see me wearing my collar,” he says, “it may be the only time in their day, week or month that the thought of God crosses their mind.”

The millennial generation may prove to be the most fertile mission field for these young priests.

Many of today’s youths are disillusioned with the contemporary culture of consumption and self-seeking, which generally fails to bring lasting fulfillment. They crave a mission — a challenge — and in response the young priests cite Pope Benedict’s call to youths: The world offers you comfort, but you are not made for comfort. You are made for greatness.

The Rev. Kevin Manthey, 27, of St. Stephen’s Church in Anoka is a former teenage garage-band drummer who still plays in his rectory basement. He keeps the words of Pope John Paul II on his office wall to remind him of this mission:

“Do not be afraid to go out on the streets and into public places, like the first Apostles who preached Christ and the Good News of salvation in the squares of cities, towns and villages. This is no time to be ashamed of the Gospel. It is the time to preach it from the rooftops.”

*Katherine Kersten is a senior fellow at the Center of the American Experiment. She is at kakersten@gmail.com.*

## Upcoming Events

### **St. Mary's Catholic Church, Seaforth MN**

Chicken Dinner with Full Salad Bar & Dessert  
Sunday, March 15, 2015 Serving 11:00am to 12:30pm.  
Mass at 10:00am Matching Grant by COF Court #1757

**St. Michael's CUF Matching Grant Rummage Sale & Lunch**  
will be held Friday, March 20 from 9am to 6pm  
And Saturday, March 21 from 8am to 1pm, bag sale starting  
at 10am, at St. Michael's Social Hall in Morgan, which is  
handicap accessible.

### **San Lucas Fundraiser:**

The St. John Paul II Area Faith Mission Group invites you to their annual **Wine Tasting, Dinner and Silent Auction on Saturday, March 21** at the Crow River Winery east of Hutchinson. This year we will be serving a Greek Dinner. Tickets are \$40.00 each and includes appetizers, Greek Dinner, and six wine samples. All proceeds will go to benefit our Mission in San Lucas, Toliman, Guatemala. If you would like to purchase tickets, please contact Gerald Kucera at 320-327-2441.

## Faith Formation & Youth Ministry

**Sunday March 22nd - the faith formation youth will be doing stations of the Cross in the Church at 7:45pm if any adults or parents wish to attend.**

**The Macaroni & Fish Nugget Fundraiser has been moved to Friday March 20. Please join us. Meal will be held from 5:30-7:30pm**

### **Vacation Bible School: what is it?**

Vacation Bible School, or VBS, is a fun-filled program many churches offer, usually during the summer months, to connect with the children and families in their communities.

Vacation Bible School is a popular summer activity for youth. Churches generally run Vacation Bible School for a week, and each program has its own theme, ours is Hollywood or HolyWord, that children can explore.

A week of VBS usually includes games, snacks, crafts, skits, and, of course, Bible lessons. There is always a connection between God and the theme, allowing kids to discover God in a creative way.

### **Vacation Bible School Volunteers**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

**Preference for helping:** (You can choose more than one)

☐ Crafts ☐ Games ☐ Group Leader ☐ Music ☐

Snacks ☐ Baby sitting/child care ☐ Donation of items

**Please return by May 1st to Katie Prokosch. Stop in, call or email with questions: 723-4139 or [straysfaithformation@gmail.com](mailto:straysfaithformation@gmail.com)**

## St. Raphael's School News



This weekend we have our Cadillac Dinner fundraiser. We have been working very hard to get ready for this, and we are very thankful to those who donated and helped make this fundraiser possible. This is our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Cadillac Dinner and it is a great event.

**This Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30- 7:30 p.m. we have Kindergarten Round-Up.**

We will be having a western cowboy theme this year.



This is a fun evening that provides families with information about our school and specifically about our kindergarten program. All children that will be five years old by September 1<sup>st</sup> are invited and it is not too late for families to sign up to attend. Please call the school 723-4135 to reserve your spot. Come and find out all St. Raphael School has to offer.

**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: \_\_\_\_\_