

ANNOUNCEMENTS

from St. Raphael's
July 10, 2026

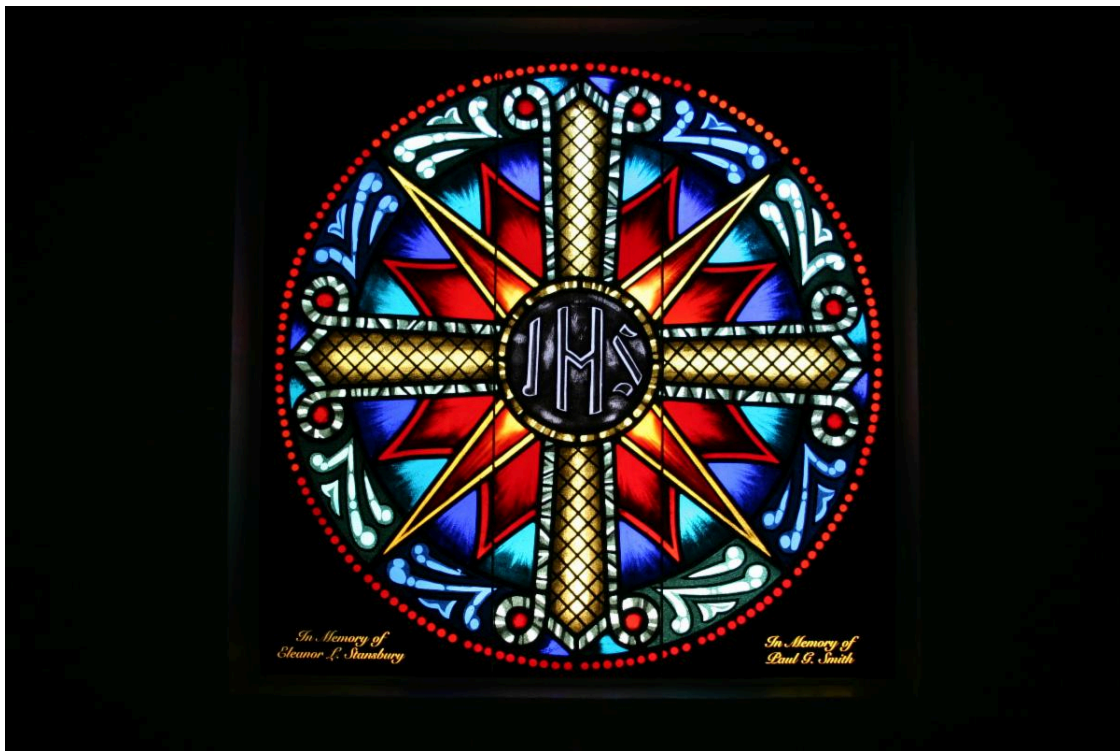
Join Us Every Sunday

Holy Eucharist

10:00 am at

5607 Williams Drive

All are invited - All are welcome!



Rooted in the teachings of Jesus Christ, we are committed to nurturing spiritual growth, fostering a sense of belonging, and serving our community with compassion.



St. Raphael's

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

July 2026



DATE	CHALICE	READER
 July 5	 Bob	 Ellie
 July 12	 Bob	 Ellie
 July 19	 Ellie	 Ross
 July 26	 Ellie	 Charles



Thank You!

Thank you to all of our worship volunteers for sharing your time and talents. Your faithful service helps make our Sunday worship meaningful each week.

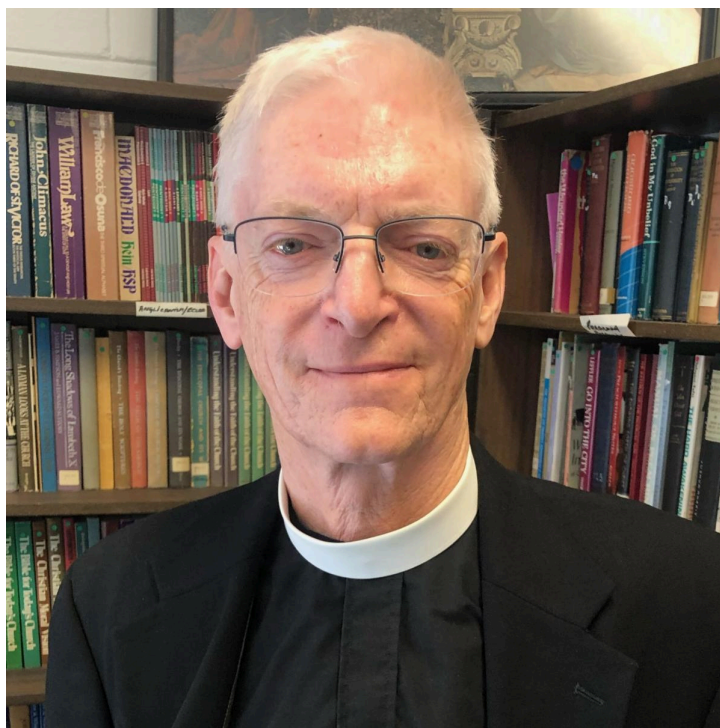


Serve the Lord with gladness; come before His presence with singing.

Psalm 100:2



Please join us for coffee hour in the parish hall immediately following the service. Ellie is going to attempt to make Monkey Bread.



A Message From Father Rowe

*Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

Dear members and friends of St. Raphael's,

This Sunday's scriptures continue the story of Rebekah and Isaac, with their two sons wrestling for dominance even before they were born. Paul, having explored the depths of human struggle and alienation from God, celebrates the great victory Christ has won for us once for all and wins in us every day.

The Gospel according to St. Matthew continues with the parable of the Sower, telling how much of the seed seems wasted while some produces tremendous results beyond all expectation. What does that mean when we regard ourselves as the ground where the seed is sown? And when we see ourselves as sowers working for Christ, spreading his word to others?

This week's holy days include the commemoration of William White, rector of Christ Church, Philadelphia; first Bishop of Pennsylvania; and the first Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church.

Yours in Christ's service,

(The Rev.) Michael Rowe
St. Raphael's Church, Fort Myers Beach
mgr3334@gmail.com
239-297-7245

Help Us Find Our Next Part-Time Priest

If you know of a priest who may be a suitable fit for St. Raphael's, please let us know. We are seeking someone who embraces our welcoming spirit, values meaningful worship, enjoys pastoral care, and appreciates the unique character of our island community. If you would like to recommend someone or have questions about the search, please contact the senior warden at profbunting@gmail.com.



Remembering The Rt. Rev. Richard "Dick" Palmer

St. Raphael's Episcopal Church joins the Palmer family in giving thanks for the life and ministry of The Rt. Rev. Richard "Dick" Palmer, who passed away on June 16, 2026, at the age of 103.

Born on May 26, 1923, in Cleveland, Ohio, Bishop Palmer faithfully served the Episcopal Church throughout his life. Before retiring to Fort Myers Beach, he served as a canon and later as Bishop of Wyoming. Although officially retired, Dick never retired from ministry.

Many longtime members of St. Raphael's who were part of our parish during the 1990s and early 2000s remember Dick with great affection. Living on Fort Myers Beach, he generously served St. Raphael's for many years as an assistant priest, priest-in-charge, and interim rector, often receiving little or no compensation.

His quiet leadership, steady presence, and willingness to serve wherever needed were a tremendous blessing to our parish during times of transition. Dick and his beloved wife, Alliene, became cherished members of the St. Raphael's family.

Following Alliene's passing three years ago, she was interred in the church columbarium. At 100 years of age, Dick led the committal service himself,

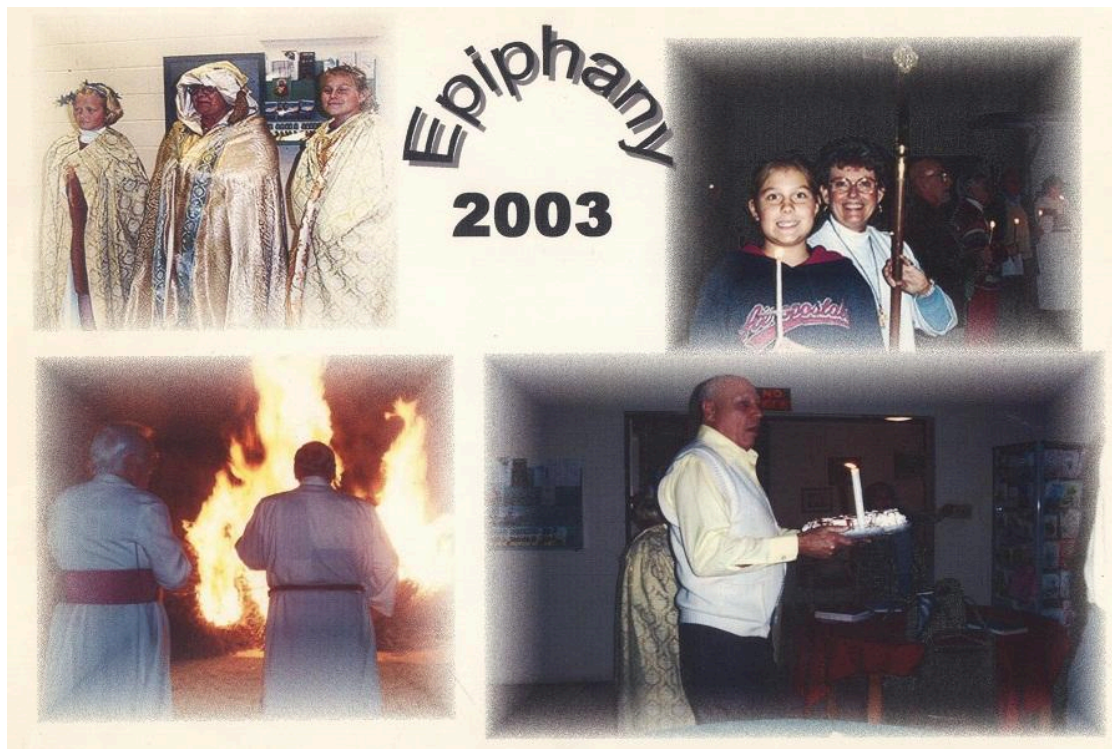
reading the Scriptures and offering the prayers as his wife's ashes were placed in their final resting place. It was a deeply moving witness to his enduring faith and devotion.

Dick's daughter recently contacted the church to arrange for Bishop Palmer's ashes to be interred beside Alliene in the St. Raphael's columbarium. The family has chosen to hold a private committal service for immediate family members.

We give thanks for Bishop Palmer's extraordinary life of service, his unwavering faith, and the many gifts he shared with St. Raphael's.

His ministry touched countless lives, and all who had the privilege of knowing him will continue to remember his legacy with gratitude

"Well done, good and faithful servant." — Matthew 25:23



Dick in the lower left observing the burning of the greens.



Bible Study Continues

Kathy Leson has reminded us the the Bible Study will continue through the summer. Many are gathering for one hour of Bible Study on Wednesdays at 10:00 am eastern time via zoom. It is a wonderful way to continue our community family bonds while we are away for the summer. We invite others who have not experienced this fellowship and reflection to join us. Let Kathy Leson know at kathleenleson@gmail.com if you would like the zoom invite.

Bishop's Committee to Meet Wednesday

The Bishop's Committee will meet via Zoom on Wednesday, July 15, at 7 PM. The Bishop's Committee's page of the website will have the agenda, minutes from the May meeting, financials, and Zoom link posted there. Our main discussion item will be the search for a new priest.

Help Us Increase Our Facebook and YouTube Presence



Our online presence has been increasing recently thanks to our streaming videos and presence on Facebook and You Tube. You can help us out by visiting [St. Raphael's Facebook Page](#) and clicking Like/Follow. You can also help by subscribing to [Father Michael's YouTube channel](#). By liking us on FB and subscribing to Father's You Tube channel you will be helping our online presence which has advantages. For example, we need to have a certain number of subscribers to live stream on You Tube. Presently, we need to stream to Facebook, save the file, and then upload to Father's You Tube page. If we could stream live directly to Facebook, we could deliver faster to viewers and increase our audience.

St. Raphael's Episcopal Church

our mission

Healing, Hope & Hospitality

on Ft. Myers Beach

THANK YOU!

for your continuing financial contributions to St. Raphael's.

Your financial pledges and donations keep our ministries vital and enable us to rebuild for the future.

You can send your donations to

St. Raphael's Church
5601 Williams Drive
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

or you can donate by visiting [St. Raphael's Website](#)



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