

ANNOUNCEMENTS

from St. Raphael's
June 26, 2026

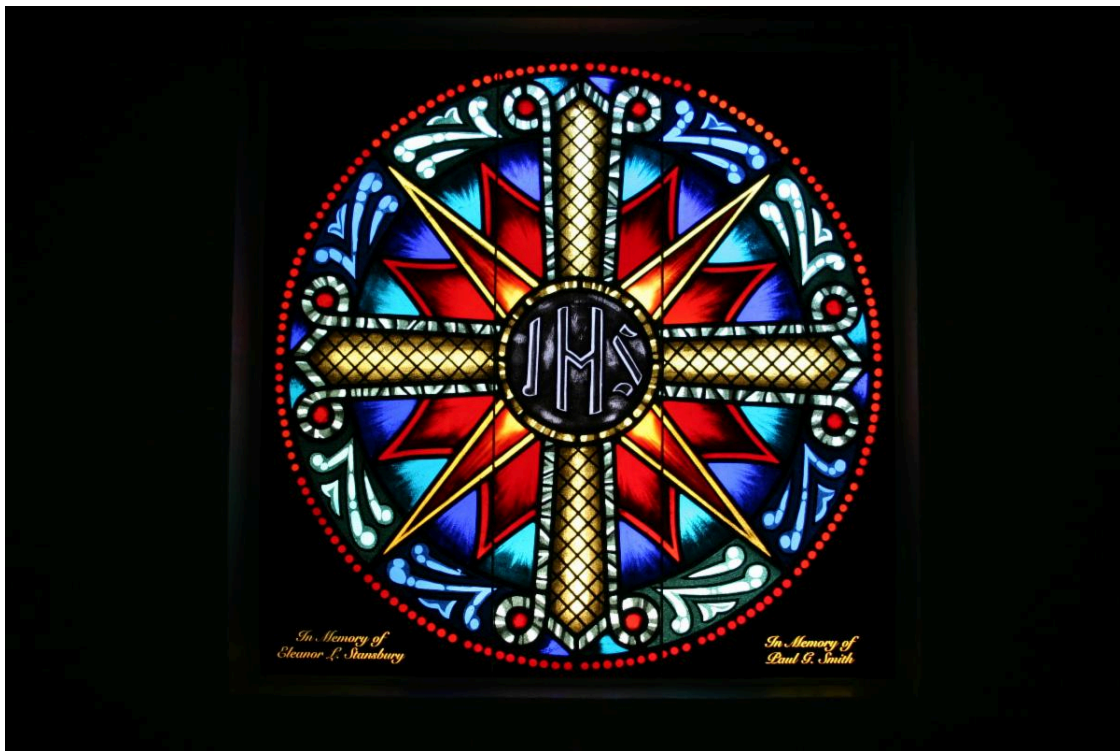
Join Us Every Sunday

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

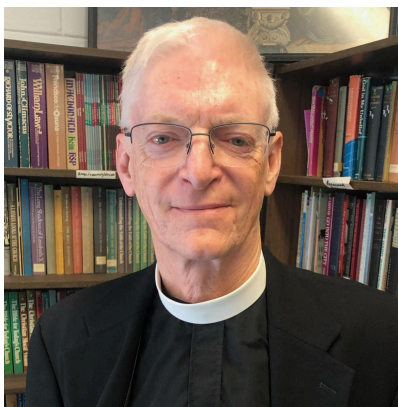
Special Coffee Hour this Sunday—Please Join Us



Please join us for Coffee Hour immediately following the service in the Parish Hall. Chef Kevin has graciously offered to host this week's Coffee Hour, complete with delicious Danish pastries and fresh coffee.

During the gathering, Kevin will also present a check to St. Raphael's in appreciation for the use of the Parish Hall.

Please take a few minutes to enjoy the fellowship, thank Kevin for his generosity, and spend time visiting with your parish family. We hope you'll join us!



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,

I have finished two weeks of my time at The House of the Redeemer in New York City, where I provide daily prayer as well as counsel and spiritual direction.

I will be back at St. Raphael's for Sunday, July 5. One of the highlights of the week was a members' tour of the splendid Raphael Exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum. Theresa and I had seen it earlier with my sister and her friend but it was too crowded to fully enjoy.

The opportunity to explore it at leisure was a real privilege. This week's readings, including the continuation of the Gospel according to St. Matthew are here. They include the searing account of Abraham preparing to offer his son as a sacrifice to God.

This was very common in the ancient world but absolutely taboo in Israel because of this encounter. The Gospel includes Jesus' assurance that the smallest act for his sake and for the sake of the Gospel matters. There is hope for us!

Holy Days this week include the Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul on Monday. At times these apostles seemed to have clashed, but in key ways they supported one another and shared martyrdom for their faith in the imperial capital.

God bless you in these summer months wherever you are.

(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



As many of you know, St. Raphael's will soon begin the search for a part-time priest to serve our parish community, which remains resilient, hopeful, and thriving after Hurricane Ian.

While the formal search process is still being finalized, we will be sharing information about this opportunity through diocesan channels, clergy networks, parish communications, and other outreach efforts in the coming weeks.

One of the greatest strengths of St. Raphael's has always been the dedication and involvement of our parish family. For that reason, we are asking for your help.

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.

Many clergy opportunities are filled through personal connections and recommendations. A conversation with a colleague, a former priest, or a friend in another parish may help us identify candidates we might not otherwise reach.

As the search moves forward, we will keep the congregation informed and ask for your continued prayers for the parish leadership and the clergy who may feel called to serve here.

If you would like to recommend someone or have questions about the search, please contact the senior warden at profbunting@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support, prayers, and commitment to the future of St. Raphael's Church.



Email Hack

Apparently emails are being sent out from profbunting@gmail.com and jean.hite@gmail.com. This comes in as an invitation, but it is spam. DO NOT CLICK ON THE INVITE LINK AND DO NOT SIGN INTO GMAIL OR GOOGLE.



Help Us Prespare for the Next Chapter

Canon Norman has asked us to provide him with an updated budget, which will include the cost of a part-time priest.

Since we do not know if the priest we choose will need housing or not, the finance committee will need to create a budget with and without the rental income.

In any case, we will need to work on getting more pledges turned in so we can show the Diocese that we have the funds to support a part-time priest. So, if you haven't turned in your pledge yet, please do so asap so we can get this completed and begin the preliminary search process.



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.

Building and Grounds Update



Although summer is our quieter season, work continues behind the scenes to keep St. Raphael's in good condition and prepare for the busy months ahead.

Sprinkler System: The sprinkler system is now operational and has been programmed to run several times during the night. While we still haven't received much rain and the grass is showing the effects of the dry weather, we are hopeful that regular summer rains will soon bring it back to life.

Floor Repairs: The flooring issue is scheduled to be repaired sometime next week.

Hurricane Preparation: Our new storage tubs have arrived, and we will begin organizing items that would need to be moved or protected in the event of a tropical storm or hurricane.

Summer Cleaning Schedule: Since activity in our buildings is minimal during the summer, we have temporarily adjusted our cleaning schedule. Bob continues to clean the church, JoAnne has volunteered to clean the office, and Chef Kevin cleans the kitchen whenever he uses it.

As a result, our professional cleaners will only be called in after events held in the Parish Hall that include food service. Once our shrimp dinners resume in the fall, they will return to their regular monthly cleaning schedule.

Native Landscaping: All invasive and non-native plants have now been removed from the property by All Native Nursery. This fall, the Garden Committee will work with All Native Nursery to replant the grounds with native vegetation that is both beautiful and better suited to our coastal environment.

Thank you to everyone who continues to volunteer their time and talents to help care for our church home. Your generosity makes a tremendous difference.

Help Us Increase Our Facebook and You Tube 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!

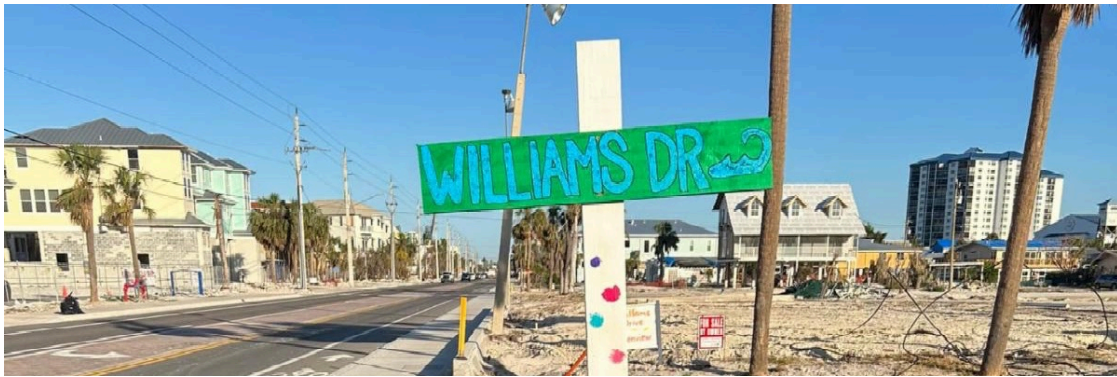
for your continuing financial contributions to St. Raphael's.

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](#)



St. Raphael's Episcopal Church | 5607 Williams Drive | Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931 US

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