

ANNOUNCEMENTS

from St. Raphael's
August 16, 2026

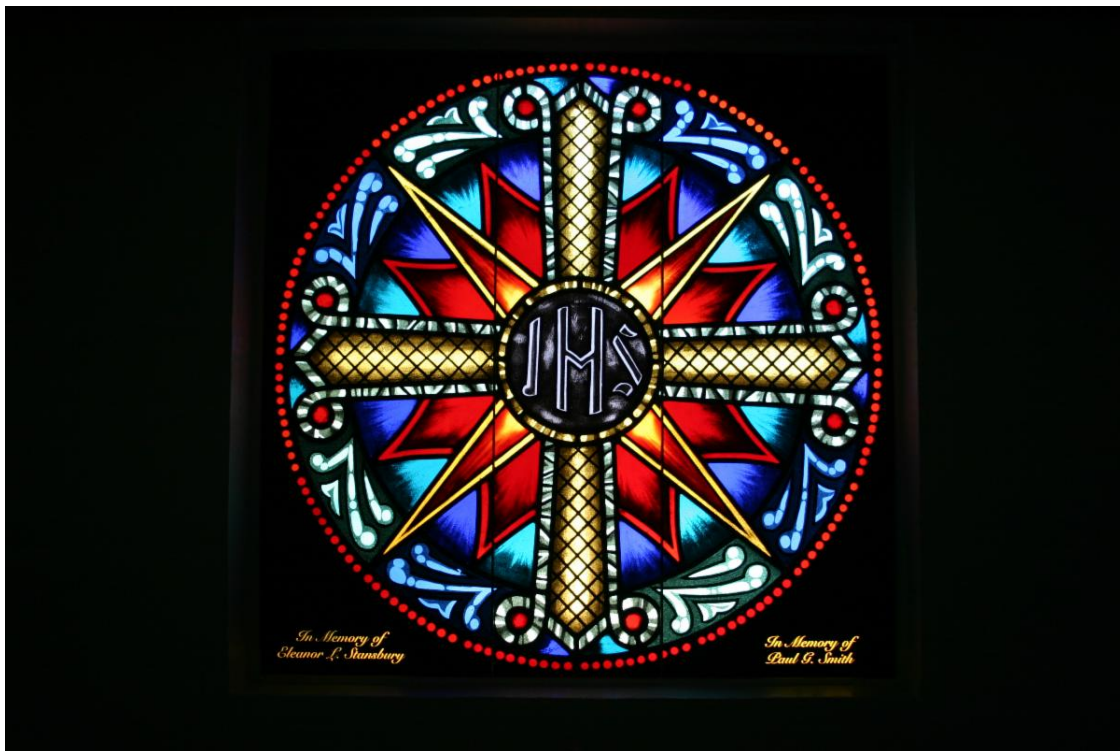
Join Us Every Sunday

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

— EPISCOPAL CHURCH —

✕
August

WORSHIP SCHEDULE



DATE	CHALICE BEARER	READER
Sunday, August 2	Judy	Ellie
Sunday, August 9	Judy	Charles
Sunday, August 16	Judy	Ross
Sunday, August 23	Bob	Charles
Sunday, August 30	Bob	Ellie



Thank you for your faithfulness and service!

TOGETHER IN WORSHIP, TOGETHER IN CHRIST.





A Sweet Summer at St. Raphael's

We've had a lot of fun this summer enjoying all kinds of treats at coffee hour!

JoAnne S. has spoiled us with her homemade banana bread and pumpkin bread, while Ellie has been experimenting with new recipes—including apple dump cake, bread pudding, and cinnamon buns. In between the sweets, we've enjoyed Bob's pulled pork and plenty of delicious leftovers from Chef Kevin's events.

And the treats continue! This Sunday, Ann Fossum is bringing brownies, so be sure to stick around after worship for coffee, conversation, and something sweet.

Coffee hour is about more than the food, of course. It's a wonderful chance to catch up with friends, welcome visitors, and enjoy a little fellowship before heading home.

See you Sunday—and save room for a brownie!



A Message From Father Rowe

Dear members and friends of St. Raphael's,

[This Sunday's scriptures](#) continue Joseph's story as he reveals himself to his astonished brothers. He will now provide for his family in Egypt during a great famine.

In Romans, Paul emphasizes that even though God's salvation has come to all nations, this in no way does away with Israel's privileged position as his chosen people.

The Gospel according to St. Matthew gives us the troubling encounter with the anguished Canaanite woman, begging for help for her daughter. "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs," says Jesus (although he goes on to heal the little girl.) What do we make of that?

I have put together a booklet called *Reading the Bible: Why and How?* that may help your reading of scripture, especially passages like these. Copies are available at the back of the church and online.

And I encourage you to try out our regular weekly [Bible study on Zoom](#).

This Saturday is [Feast of St. Mary the Virgin](#) (called *The Assumption of Mary* in the Roman Catholic Church) on Saturday.

May God bless us, and the saints pray for us.

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

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.

WHERE ARE YOU WORSHIPPING THIS SUMMER?



A few months ago, we asked people to send us photos of the churches they were attending over the summer. This is from Jack and Kathy Leson. [Click here for a link to their website where you can find an article on Kathy in their newsletter.](#) If you are up

58th ANNUAL *Diocesan Convention*

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA



TOGETHER IN
Faith & Mission



OCTOBER 9–10, 2026



**Charlotte Harbor Event &
Conference Center**
Punta Gorda, Florida

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9



A full day of learning with a plenary by **Bishop Doug Scharf**



Four strategic planning sessions for attendees with national leaders

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10



Diocesan-wide Holy Eucharist



Convention Business Session



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Registration opened
AUGUST 1, 2026

DEADLINE TO REGISTER:
OCTOBER 2, 2026



Worship. Learn. Connect. Lead.

✦ TOGETHER, WE SHAPE THE FUTURE OF OUR DIOCESE.

CONVENTION IN OCTOBER

The 58th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Southwest Florida will be held Friday and Saturday, October 9–10, 2026, at the Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center in Punta Gorda.

Friday will feature a full day of learning, beginning with a plenary session led by Bishop Doug Scharf, followed by four strategic planning sessions with national leaders. It promises to be a valuable opportunity to learn, share ideas, and consider the future of our Diocese.

Saturday will bring everyone together for our Diocesan-wide Holy Eucharist, followed by the Convention Business Session.

Convention registration opened on August 1, and the deadline to register is October 2, 2026.

Ellie and Bob Bunting will be attending, as will Kathy Leson. Kathy and Ellie are the delegates. Bob is along for the ride. Please consider joining us for part of the convention.

It would be nice if St. Raphael's had a good showing. You do not need to be a delegate to attend, but you do need to register. Jackie is our alternate delegate whom we hope will attend with us.

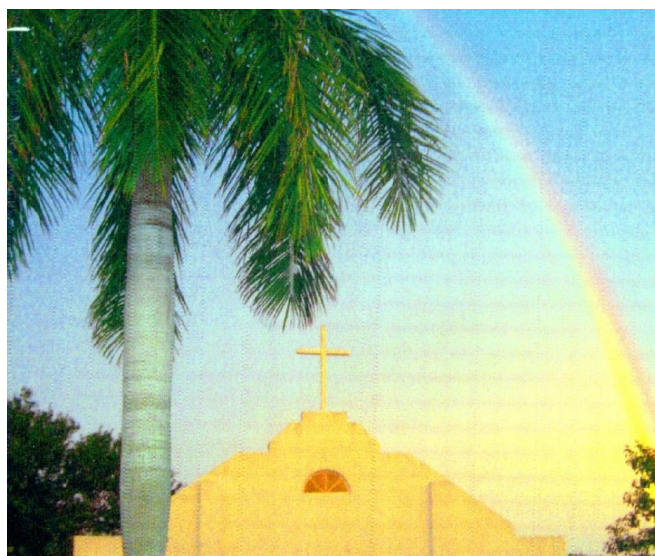
If you are interested in attending, contact JoAnn B at office@straphaels.org, and she can send in the registration form for St. Raphaels.

The annual convention is an opportunity for clergy and lay representatives from Episcopal churches throughout Southwest Florida to come together for worship, fellowship, learning, and the important work of our Diocese.



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.



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

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!