

ANNOUNCEMENTS

from St. Raphael's
July 17, 2026

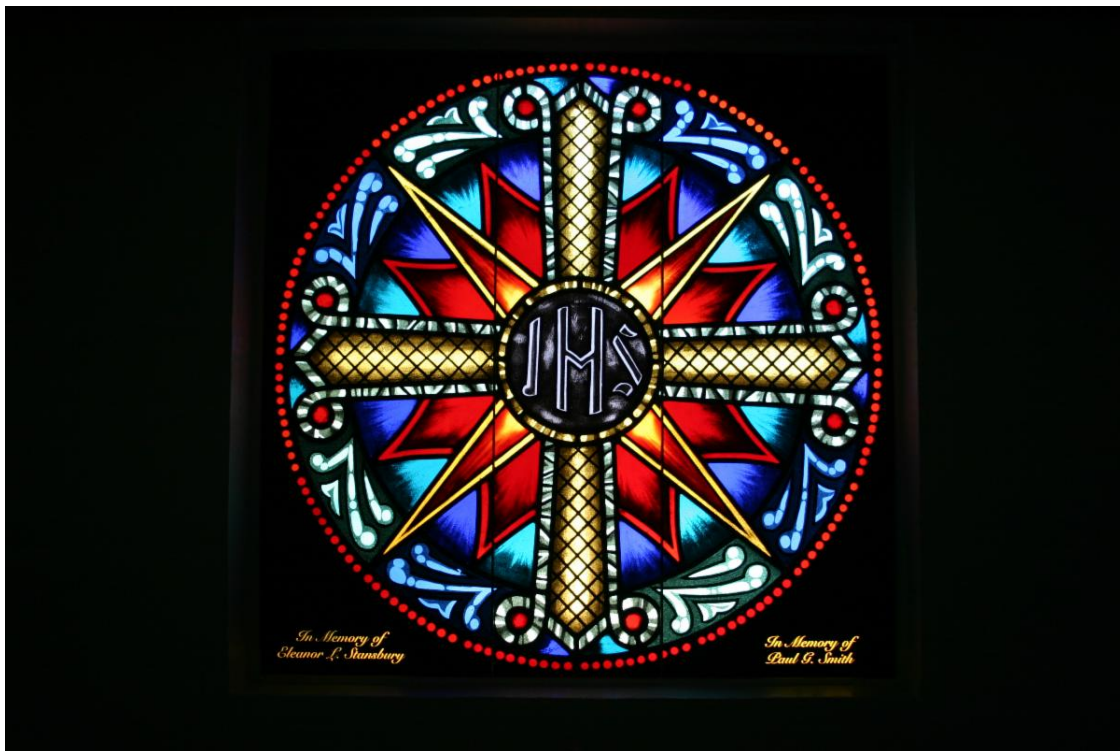
Join Us Every Sunday

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.

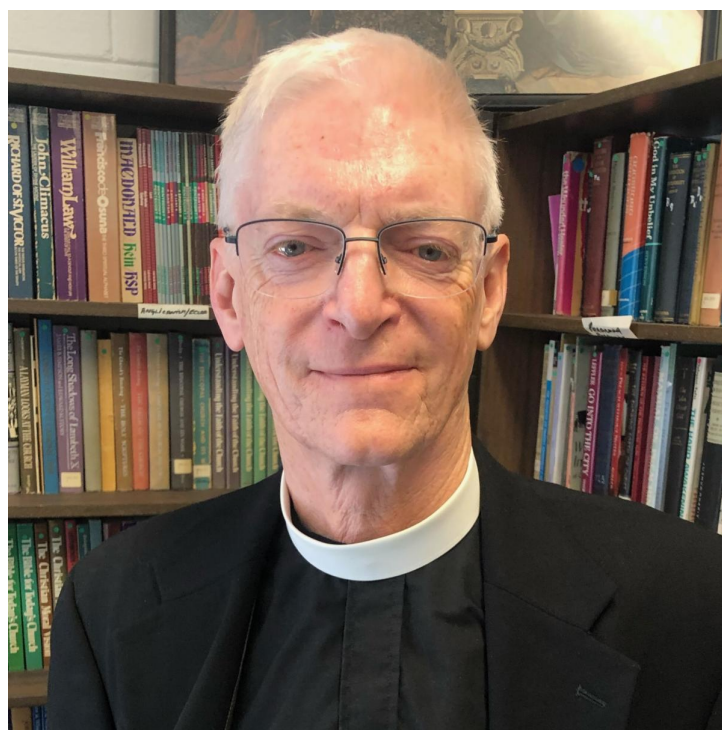


Serve the Lord with gladness; come before His presence with singing.

Psalm 100:2



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



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](#) introduce us to Jacob and his dream ladder. Paul urges us to know who we are – Christ's people – and to live that way, confident of the eternal glory to come.

The Gospel according to St. Matthew continues with the parable of the weeds in the field of wheat and how the owner lets the weeds grow lest the wheat be torn out. I wonder what that parable means?

This week's holy days include the commemoration of [Mary Magdalene](#), who may be the Mary in the Gospel, and [St. James the Apostle](#), St. John's brother, the sons of Zebedee, whom Jesus called "Sons of Thunder." I wonder why.

At this halfway point through the year, may I ask you to check that your financial giving to St. Raphael's is what you and God want it to be?

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.



Comfort Hall Hosts Beach Kids' Foundation Scholarship Dinner

Comfort Hall was filled with excitement and celebration as more than 60 guests gathered for the Beach Kids' Foundation Scholarship Awards Dinner. This year, 26 Fort Myers Beach students each received a \$1,000 scholarship to help with their college expenses.

Chef Kevin prepared a wonderful meal, and thanks to the efforts of the Kids' Foundation volunteers, Comfort Hall looked beautiful for this special occasion.

The hall will continue serving our community later this month when the Fort Myers Beach Lions Club holds its annual scholarship awards dinner at St. Raphael's.

To prepare for that event, we have left the tables in place and are using the opportunity to showcase Comfort Hall as an excellent venue for banquets, awards dinners, celebrations, and other special events.

For nonprofit organizations, we charge only a cleaning fee, and Chef Kevin generously donates money to us for the use of the commercial kitchen, making it an affordable option for community groups.





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 Notes

The Bishop's Committee met via Zoom on Wednesday evening. Here are a few highlights from the meeting:

- **Building and Grounds** – Our sprinkler system has been repaired and is once again fully operational. With a little help from Mother Nature, we hope to see the lawn begin to recover in the coming weeks. The committee also approved the installation of handrails at the steps leading into the altar area to provide additional support for clergy and servers.
- **Iona Hope Grant** – We are grateful to have received a \$1,000 grant from Iona Hope in response to our application submitted in April. These funds will be used to purchase the new handrails and add much-needed storage in the sacristy.
- **Search for a New Priest** – The Bishop's Committee will serve as the parish search committee. Kathy Leson is preparing our parish profile, and

she and Jack have completed the updated budget requested by Canon Norman. Once both documents are finished, they will be submitted to Canon Norman, and we will schedule a meeting to discuss the next steps in the search process.

- **Stewardship and Membership** – As with many churches, pledge income is lower this year. We are looking for someone to lead our stewardship campaign this fall and help encourage faithful giving. We also remain committed to welcoming new members and growing our parish family. If you have ideas or would like to help with outreach, we would love to hear from you.

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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