



## St. Raphael School News

### Our Lady of Guadalupe Pilgrim Tilma Visits St. Raphael

By Nina Cardillo

Early in December, with pastor Fr. Michael Salah and parochial vicar Fr. Dave Wells, St. Raphael Parish was delighted to host a pilgrim image of Our Lady of Guadalupe and share in a special way the remarkable messages from Our Blessed Mother during her apparitions to a peasant named Juan Diego and miraculous appearance on his

tilma several centuries ago. The encased tilma, hand-stitched by contemplative nuns in Mexico, was given to the Archdiocese of Washington and used in the annual "Walk with Mary" procession. The pilgrim image of Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas, travels to parishes across the archdiocese spreading the mission of conversion for all people. Fr. Wells celebrated a bilingual Mass welcoming the tilma to St. Raphael, which was displayed before the altar for veneration, reflection of its significance and meaning, and admira-

tion of its beauty.

Also in honor of the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, St. Raphael Spanish Sunday Mass featured a procession with Our Lady to the sights and sounds of mariachi music and Matachines dancers in colorful Aztec costume, as well as the Knights of Columbus. A reenactment of the presentation of roses by Juan Diego to the bishop was performed at the beginning of the Mass concelebrated by Bishop Mario Dorsonville and Fr. Wells. The festivities honoring

*Continued on page 39*

## St. Raphael's Family Night BINGO February 9

St. Raphael's Respect for Life Committee will hold the third **Annual Family Night BINGO** on Friday, February 9, 2018 in our Trumpet Room. The doors open at 6:00 P.M. There is no admission fee; each bingo card is \$5.00 and *free space tokens* are \$5.00, which can be used during each game. This is a family-friendly event that is held before the beginning of Lent, allowing your family to enjoy a night of clean fun. This year, we will feature game prizes, which include themed family activities, restaurant gift cards

and some super surprises! Pizza, sodas and desserts will be available for purchase. Advance sales will occur at St. Raphael's the week before the event.

Proceeds will benefit **St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth and Families** in Hyattsville. St. Ann's is administrated by the Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul within the Archdiocese of Washington. Its mission is to strengthen and support families on their journey towards stability. Inspired by Catholic social teaching and Gospel values, St. Ann's Center

provides a nurturing community where families heal from the past, overcome barriers, and take hold of their future. Visit their website at [www.stanns.org](http://www.stanns.org) for additional information on the loving work St. Ann's accomplishes. Come and have a little fun and support an excellent organization that fosters life-affirming support for children, women and families in need.

For additional information, contact: Sandy Shamburek, SRO Coordinator at St. Raphael at 240-864-2514 or [sshamburek@straphaels.org](mailto:sshamburek@straphaels.org).

**OPT**

## St. Raphael's Sodality News

St. Raphael's Sodality hosted Kevin Wells, brother of our Parochial Vicar, Fr. David Wells, on January 16. Kevin is the author of the book "Burst," former sportswriter and now VP of his family masonry contracting company, husband, father of three, and a freelance writer who is on fire for the Lord.

We will host our annual Sodality Tea on Mardi Gras Tuesday, February 13 from 1:30-4:00 pm in the parish library. All women are invited to wear their finest and bring their favorite tea cups. We will dine on fancy sandwiches and tasty desserts prior to praying the rosary and socializing. This event has become a perennial favorite.

Helen Alvaré, who founded Women Speak for Themselves, will be our guest on March 20 at 7:00 pm in the Trumpet Room. All members of the Archdiocese are welcome to join us.

Ms. Alvaré is an Associate Professor of Law who prior to joining the George Mason faculty was an Associate Professor at The Catholic University's Columbus School of Law. Professor Alvaré received her law degree at Cornell University in 1984 and a master's degree in systematic theology from The Catholic University of America in 1989.

For three years, Ms. Alvaré worked at the Office of General Counsel for the National

Conference of Catholic Bishops, where she drafted amicus briefs in leading U.S. Supreme Court cases concerning abortion, euthanasia and the Establishment Clause. For the next ten years, she worked with the Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities at the NCCB. There, she lobbied, testified before federal congressional committees, addressed university audiences, and appeared on hundreds of television and radio programs on behalf of the U.S. Catholic bishops. She also assisted the Holy See on matters concerning women, marriage and the family, and respect for human life.

It's not too late to join Sodality. You may send your dues of \$30 to our Treasurer, Aleta Phillips, 304 Winter Walk Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20878.

**OPT**

### St. Raphael Parish St. Raphael School

1513 Dunster Road, Rockville, MD

Rev. Michael Salah, Pastor

Teri Dwyer, Principal

MJ Zafis-Garcia,  
OPT Editor

301-762-2143

[www.straphaels.org](http://www.straphaels.org)  
[www.straphaelschoolmd.org](http://www.straphaelschoolmd.org)

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram:  
@SRSRockville



Summer 2018 is just around the corner...  
so get ready for fun!

POOL ♥ STEM CLASSES ♥ ARTS ♥ SPORTS ♥ ADVENTURE CAMPS ♥ AND MORE!



June 18–July 27 • Co-ed, Ages 4–17  
Full-day, one-week camps

9101 Rockville Pike · Bethesda, Maryland  
301.657.4322 ext. 380

[www.stoneridgesummercampus.org](http://www.stoneridgesummercampus.org)



**SCHOOL NEWS**

*Con't from page 5*

Our Lady continued with a reception of food and music.

**Oh What Fun! The Mother Teresa Luncheon**

This year's annual Mother Teresa Luncheon joyfully welcomed about 80 visitors from two Washington, D.C., centers run by the Missionaries of Charity. Our guests attended Mass and were served a warm, Christmas-style meal by St. Raphael School seventh- and eighth-graders and many other volunteers, including St. Raphael Sodality and the Knights of Columbus. A piano sing-along and special performance by St. Raphael Nursery School 4-Plus students made spirits bright and brought many smiles to our visitors. We are grateful to everyone who came and those who contributed to making this event possible.

**Here We Come A-Caroling**

Christmas spirit and song warmed our hearts with the love and joy of the season as SRS and SRNS students presented their holiday programs. The SRS pageant featured a collection of Christmas carols from around the world – including “A La Nanita Nana” performed in Spanish by the eighth grade with ukuleles and percussion instruments, the



St. Raphael Nursery School students encourage everyone to “Go, Tell it on the Mountain!” as they share the story of the birth of Baby Jesus. Photo by Ashley Mendez

African American spiritual “Mary’s Boy Child” presented by the seventh grade with instrument accompaniment, and “Silent Night/Stille

and “A Holly Jolly Christmas” creatively prepared in vocal harmony by the fifth grade. The program culminated with the kindergarten class re-enactment of the Nativity of Jesus and the entire student body and audience joining in for the finale, “Happy Birthday, Baby Jesus!”



On Spirit Day at St. Raphael School, anything goes. Go, Angels! Photo by MJ Zafis-Garcia, St. Raphael School

**Rockin’ Around the Basketball Court**

CYO basketball is underway, and SRS Angels in third through eighth grade are ready to roll. Teachers and students faced off for a friendly game at SRS Spirit Day, decking the halls with excitement and revving up momentum for the season. We wish the SRS Angels and all CYO participants a merry season filled with competitive sport!

**Upcoming Events Ring in the New Year**

Registration for St. Raphael School and St. Raphael Nursery School for 2018-19 is open. Visit the Admissions Page of our website at [www.straphaelschoolmd.org](http://www.straphaelschoolmd.org) for more information.

- Jan. 28-Feb. 2: Catholic Schools Week celebrates Catholic education and honors all who make it possible with a full schedule of special events.
- Feb. 26-March 1: Read Across America recognizes the importance of reading and encourages the practice and enjoyment of this skill. Happy birthday, Dr. Seuss!



Through their whimsical and beautiful performances, St. Raphael School students put audience members in the spirit of Christmas. Photo by Malu Powell

**St. Elizabeth**



Our Eighth graders won this year’s CYO Soccer Championship.

**SERVICE**

*Con't from page 35*

be in need.

The pledge cards also included a portion for each individual to keep in their wallet or purse, as a reminder to serve God and others in the new year. Cards included the Prayer of Self-Offering:

Receive, Lord, my entire freedom.

Accept the whole of my memory, my intellect and my will.

Whatever I possess, it was You who gave it to me;

I restore it to You in full, and I surrender it completely to the guidance of your will.

Give me only love of you together with your grace, and I am rich enough to ask for nothing more. Amen.

In the coming year, the community at St. Michael the Archangel will identify service opportunities in the parish, in Silver Spring, and across the Metro area. Clerical leaders, including Monsignor Tolentino, have issued a call for the parish to work more closely with other groups in the diocese such as Catholic Charities.

As Lent approaches, St. Michael the Archangel Parish invites all Christians in our Parish, our community, and in the Church to join us in our commitment to make this a Year of Service.

OPT

**It's Time to Spruce Up!**



- Interior & exterior painting
- Wallpapering - removal & hanging
- Pressure cleaning - walks, siding driveways, decks
- Fully licensed and insured
- Neighborhood references
- Free Estimates
- Serving your community since '80
- Quality custom work

**Jim Kuzma • Painting**  
301-608-0988  
2326 Montgomery Street  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

email: [zmapaint@aol.com](mailto:zmapaint@aol.com)

Member St. Jude's Parish

**Joe Maier**

Plumbing Repairs and Remodeling • Drain Cleaning  
Water Heaters • Hot Water and Steam Heat

**MASTER PLUMBING  
& MECHANICAL INC.**

**301-650-9100**

Serving the parish community in Montgomery County since 1986

Senior citizen discount • Gas company financing

Licensed - Bonded - Insured

in MD and DC #878



**Classifieds**

**IT'S  
GOOD  
NEWS!**

**... AND GOOD  
FOR YOUR  
BUSINESS**

**Advertise in  
Our Parish  
Times**

**CALL  
(301) 706-9684**

**Corrados' Inc**

11641 Boiling Brook Parkway  
Rockville, MD 20852

301-816-9666

Furniture

Interiors

Fabrics & Trimming

Fine Furniture

Wall Coverings

Carpet

Window Treatment

Upholstery

Interior Design

Robert Corrado

St. Catherine Labouré