

# **St. Rafka Maronite Catholic Church**

2301 Wadsworth Boulevard,  
Lakewood, CO 80214  
Website: [www.strafkadenver.org](http://www.strafkadenver.org)  
Email: [StRafkaLkwd@outlook.com](mailto:StRafkaLkwd@outlook.com)



## **March 31, 2024 The Glorious Resurrection**

### **Schedule of Masses & Services**

**Sunday Mass** 11:00 AM  
**Tuesday-Thursday Mass** 6:00 PM  
**Friday Mass during Lent** 5:50 PM followed by  
Stations of the Cross  
**Saturday Mass** 11:30 AM  
**Holy Days on Weekdays** 6:30 PM  
  
**Confession:** Tuesday-Thursday 5:00 – 5:45 PM

**Please call the office to alert us of any  
Pastoral Care needs**  
(Hospital, Homebound, Etc.)

### **Office Hours**

9:30 am-3:30 pm, Wednesday & Friday  
720-833-0354

[StRafkaLkwd@outlook.com](mailto:StRafkaLkwd@outlook.com)

*Rev. El-Badaoui Habib, Parochial Administrator*

*Linda Craven, Office & Business Manager*

*Philip Kyburz, Grand Knight,  
St. Rafka Council of the Knights of Columbus*

*Linda Craven, Religious Education*  
[lhalpincraven@gmail.com](mailto:lhalpincraven@gmail.com)

Contact the office to register in the Parish

## **Spiritual Message from Father El-Badaoui Habib**

### **The Feast of Easter**

Who will roll back the stone from the entrance of the tomb?

There is a saying that we share in every culture when we feel down, upset, angry, sad, or unhappy that we have a big stone laying down on our chest. When you are not faithful to your choice and you do something wrong, you feel that there is a stone on your chest.

When you live a sinful life by cheating, lying, stealing, and committing adultery, you feel that on your chest there is a big stone.

When they buried Jesus, they also put a big stone on the face of the tomb which was impossible for those two ladies to roll back by themselves.

Today the angel of the Lord is telling us to “roll back the stone and to move on to a new life.” To roll back the stone from Jesus’ tomb can only be a divine work, the work of God and not us humans.

## DAILY READINGS

**Sunday, March 31**

***The Glorious Resurrection***

*Book of Offering Page 315 + rite*

Jon 2:1-11

1 Cor 15:12-26

Mk 16:1-8

**Monday, April 1**

***Monday of White Week***

***St. Mary of Egypt***

*Book of Offering Page 327*

1 Cor 15:1-11

Mt 21:17-27

**Tuesday, April 2**

***Tuesday of White Week***

***St. Aphian & St. Aedesius, M***

*Book of Offering Page 336*

Rom 6:3-11

Jn 21:1-14

**Wednesday, April 3**

***Wednesday of White Week***

***Isaiah & Ezekiel the Prophets***

*Book of Offering Page 346*

Col 3:1-11

Jn 21:15-25

**Thursday, April 4**

***Thursday of White Week***

***Pope St. Anicetus, M***

*Book of Offering Page 356*

Eph 2:1-10

Mk 16:15-18

**Friday, April 5**

***Friday of White Week***

***St. Robert***

*Book of Offering Page 366*

Rom 10:4-12

Lk 24:36-45

**Saturday, April 6**

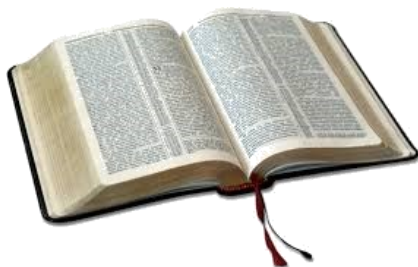
***Saturday of White Week***

***St. Marcellinus, M***

*Book of Offering Page 376*

Col 2:8-15

Jn 20:19-25



## The Resurrection of Jesus (Mark 16: 1-8)

**16** When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. <sup>2</sup> And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup> They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?"

<sup>4</sup> When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. <sup>5</sup> As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup> But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. <sup>7</sup> But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you."

<sup>8</sup> So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

## Spiritual Message (continued)

Saint Paul wrote in his letter to the Corinthians; "The Holy Spirit arose the body of Christ from the tomb, and he will raise your mortal bodies too."

When Mary of Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb, they were discussing with each other on the way: "Who will roll back the stone for us?" because they knew that the stone was huge, so big that they were unable to do this work.

"And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, approached, and rolled back the stone and sat on it."

When the stone is so heavy, no one can roll it back from us, no one can release us from these burdens, so we need to look to God. There is something within us that no one can remove, uproot, and heal us from except God.

# NEWS & EVENTS

*This week at St. Rafka Church*

Sun 31	Mon 1	Tues 2	Wed 3	Thurs 4	Fri 5	Sat 6	Sun 7
<b>Glorious Resurrection</b>  <b>11:00am</b>  No Religious Education	<i>Mass 11 am</i>  <i>Monday of White Week</i> <i>St. Mary of Egypt</i>	<i>Mass 6:00 pm</i>  <i>Tuesday of White Week</i> <i>St. Aphian &amp; St. Aedesius, M</i>	<i>Mass 6:00 pm</i>  <i>Wednesday of White Week</i> <i>Isaiah &amp; Ezekiel the Prophets</i>	<i>Mass 6:00 pm</i>  <i>Thursday of White Week</i> <i>Pope St. Anicetus, M</i>	<i>No Mass</i>  <i>Friday of White Week</i> <i>St. Robert</i>	<i>No Mass</i>  <i>Saturday of White Week</i> <i>St. Marcellinus, M</i>	<b>2nd Sunday of the Resurrection</b>  <b>Divine Mercy Sunday</b> <b>11:00am</b>  Religious Education 10-10:50 am
The deadline to receive events and articles for the bulletin is Wednesday at 12:00 PM Submit them to the Parish Office at <a href="mailto:StRafkaLkwd@outlook.com">StRafkaLkwd@outlook.com</a>							

**Annual Fish Fry on Great Friday after service. Price is \$20 per person 12 & over, \$5 per person under 12. Easter Egg Hunt after Divine Liturgy Easter Sunday. Bags will be provided, or bring a basket.**

**Bishop Elias will be here the entire Divine Mercy weekend to join us for the Hafli, and to celebrate Divine Liturgy on Sunday, April 7, at 11 am.**




  
**ST RAFKA FEAST DAY**  
*Annual Hafli*  
 BUFFET, CASH BAR, DJ, RAFFLE  
**Special Guest Bishop Zaidan**  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024 | 6PM-11PM**  
**18+ only \$100**  
 QUEEN OF PEACE Catholic Church  
 13120 E Kentucky Ave, Aurora, CO 80012  
<https://forms.gle/S35jdhKk94eb3Sbz6>  
 Tickets can be purchased via Zelle 724-912-8840

**On Great Friday of the Crucifixion (March 29) we will have the annual collection for the Holy Land.**

**Great Friday of the Crucifixion: (Friday of the Passion), March 29**

6:30 pm Veneration of the Cross and Burial of Christ  
 After Fish Dinner  
**Easter Vigil**  
**Saturday, March 30**  
 5:30 pm Easter Vigil Mass

**The Glorious Resurrection SUNDAY, March 31**

11 am Easter Day Mass  
 Easter Egg Hunt After Mass

**WHITE WEEK (Week of Easter)**  
 Monday of Easter: Mass at 11 am








## St. Rafka Parish Mission Statement

Faith, hope, and love, reinforcing our family values, promoted through heritage and prayer for the glory of God, the edification of the Holy Church and the salvation of the world.

### Spiritual Message (continued)

The stone that was placed on the tomb of Jesus was so heavy, it represents the entire human condition of unfairness and injustice, all the act of Crucifixion, all the hatred of the world, every kind of betrayal and of unfaithfulness, every kind of hurt and insult, every kind of sadness and sorrow, every kind of mocking and insulting.

That stone represented human anger, resentment, bad intentions, and bad spirit. The spirit when you don't wish good to your fellow man, the wrong judgement and jealousy, "see the whole world has left us and followed him."

No man can remove these stones from our hearts except the risen Lord. And no one can release us from our problems except our Savior. No one can heal us physically and spiritually except Jesus. No one can restore us and forgive us our sins except Jesus our high priest. It is not only words, but it is a matter of faith.

Only a good life, a pure one, can bring joy to our hearts and take every kind of sadness away. But when you feel God's role and works in your life, be grateful to him and know that you have a role to play which is to go and tell others. Especially the closest members of your family and friends. On this Holy occasion I wish you, your family members, and friends a very happy and blessed Easter.

**Jesus is risen - He is truly risen. Amen**

