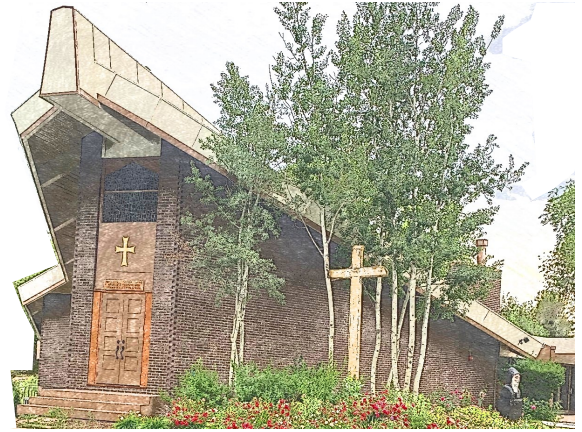


St. Rafka Maronite Catholic Church

2301 Wadsworth Boulevard,
Lakewood, CO 80214

Website: www.strafkadenver.org

Email: StRafkaLkwd@outlook.com



October 29, 2023 Sunday of Christ the King

Schedule of Masses & Services

Sunday Mass 11:00 AM

Tuesday-Thursday Mass 5:00 PM

Friday Mass 6:30 PM

Saturday Mass 11:30 AM

Holy Days on Weekdays 6:30 PM

Confession: Tuesday-Thursday 4:00 – 4:45 PM

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

Office Hours

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

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

Contact the office to register in the Parish

Spiritual Message from Deacon George Matthew 25:31-46

Do you allow the love of God to rule in your heart? Augustine says, “Essentially, there are two kinds of people, because there are two kinds of love. One is holy, the other is selfish. One is subject to God; the other endeavors to equal Him.” Jesus came not only to fulfill the law, but to transform it through the gift of the Holy Spirit who fills our hearts with the love of God (Romans 5:5). Do you allow God’s love to purify your heart, thoughts, and actions?

Jesus’ story about the separation of goats and sheep must have unsettled his audience. In arid lands goats and sheep often grazed together during the day because green pasture was sparse. They were

DAILY READINGS & MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, October 29

Sunday of Christ the King

Book of Offering Page 606

Job 29:12-17

Rom 12:9-21

Mt 25:31-46

Monday, October 30

St. Macarius, Bishop of Jerusalem

Book of Offering Page 617

1 Cor 10:1-13

Mt 13:44-46

Tuesday, October 31

St. Epimachus

Book of Offering Page 627

1 Cor 10:14-24

Mt 13:47-53

Wednesday, November 1

All Saints Day (Holy day of obligation)

Book of Offering Page 473 or 637

Heb 12:18-24; Mt 5:1-12 or

1 Cor 12:1-11; Mt 18:23-35

Thursday, November 2

Commemoration of the Faithful Departed

Book of Offering Page 647

1 Cor 12:12-27

Mt 22:15-22

Friday, November 3

Sts. Akepsimas, Joseph, & Aithalas

Book of Offering Page 658

1 Cor 13:1-13

Mt 21:28-32

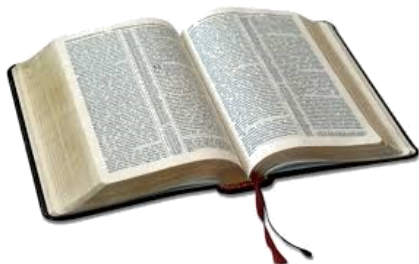
Saturday, November 4

Sts. Vitalis & Agricola

Book of Offering Page 445 or 668

1 Cor 9:24-27; Mt 8:14-22 or

1 Cor 14:1-5,13-14,20,26; Mt 21:33-46



Today's Gospel

The Judgment of the Nations (Mt. 25:31-46)

³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³ and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴ Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' ⁴¹ Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴² for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' ⁴⁴ Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' ⁴⁵ Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Spiritual Message (continued)

separated at night because goats needed shelter. Goats were also less docile and more restless than sheep. They came to symbolize evil, and the expression "scapegoat" has become a common expression for someone bearing blame for others.

Separation is an inevitable consequence of judgement. The Day of Judgement will reveal who showed true compassion and mercy toward their neighbor. As much as we might like to judge the parables, the parables,

NEWS & EVENTS

This week at St. Rafka Church

| Sun 29 | Mon 30 | Tues 31 | Wed 1 | Thurs 2 | Fri 3 | Sat 4 | Sun 5 |
|---|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| Sunday of Christ the King Mass 11:00am | <i>No Mass</i> <i>St. Macarius, Bishop of Jerusalem</i> | <i>No Mass</i> <i>St. Epimachus</i> | <i>No Mass</i> All Saints Day Holy day of obligation | <i>No Mass</i> <i>Commemoration of the Faithful Departed</i> | <i>No Mass</i> <i>St.s. Akepsimas, Joseph, & Aithalas</i> | <i>No Mass</i> <i>Sts. Vitalis & Agricola</i> | Consecration of the Church Beginning of Liturgical year 2023-2024 Mass 11:00am Mass Colo. Springs 5 pm 4-yr. anniv. celebration Roro Dagher |
| <p>The deadline to receive events and articles for the bulletin is Thursday at 12:00 PM Submit them to the Parish Office at StRafkaLkwd@outlook.com</p> | | | | | | | |

Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles

October 23, 2023

Dear Msgrs. and Fathers,

I hope this finds you well.

The situation in Lebanon is worsening and the people are suffering from economic hardships. Solidarity, a non-profit organization associated with our Patriarchal Maronite Foundation in the World, is launching a special scholarship drive to assist 5,000 poor families with educational costs.

I would like to request your support in spreading the news regarding this initiative and holding a special collection on the week-ends of October 28-29 or November 4-5, 2023.

The educational stipend is \$150, but truly any assistance that can be donated towards this cause will go a long way to help pay for student tuition fees, books, and transportation.

Thus, we will support the students and the Catholic Schools.

Any donations collected can be sent to the Eparchy, and we will make sure to forward them to Solidarity.

Thank you for all that you do and for your ministry in these especially difficult times in Lebanon, the Middle East, and around the world.

With sincere best wishes and prayers, I remain

Yours in Christ,

+A. Elias Zaidan

Bishop of the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles



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)

nonetheless, judge us. Jesus teaches us a very important lesson about loving our neighbor and taking responsibility for others. God will judge us not only for the wrong we have done but also for what we have failed to do.

Now is the time of God's mercy for seeking his help and grace to turn away from sin and to walk in his way of love. Ask the Lord to purify your heart that you may love as he loves and live charitably with all.

This parable is similar to the parable about Lazarus and the rich man. The rich man let Lazarus die on his doorstep and was doomed to crave for drops of cold water he had not thought of giving to the poor man.

Martin of Tours (who lived in the 4th century), a young Roman soldier and seeker of the Christian faith, met an unclothed man begging for alms in the freezing cold, he stopped and cut his coat in two and gave half to the stranger. That night he dreamt he saw the heavenly court with Jesus robed in a torn cloak. One of the angels present asked, "Master, why do you wear that battered cloak?" Jesus replied, "My servant Martin gave it to me." Martin's disciple and biographer Sulpicius Severus states that as a consequence of this vision Martin "flew to be baptized."

God is gracious and merciful; his love compels us to treat others with mercy and kindness. When we do something for one of Christ's little ones, we do it for Christ.



The next Maronite Mass in Colorado Springs:

Sunday, November 5th at 5:00pm

St Joseph's Catholic Church

1830 S Corona Ave, Colorado Springs, CO
80905

*Parking lot and entrance is on the Wahsatch
Street side*

**Mass will be offered for the repose
of the soul of Roro Dagher. This is
the 4-year anniversary celebration.**