

St Raphael Sodality



To Jesus, through Mary

*“I recall your sincere faith that first lived in
your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice
and that I am confident lives also in you.”
2 Timothy 1:5*



Sisters...

spiritual mothers...

sharing the treasure of
our Catholic faith

An invitation to service

At St. Raphael Parish in 1994, then pastor and now Monsignor Mike Wilson invited a group of women to start a Sodality - a sweet sisterhood of service and a prayer heart of our parish.



Sodality members join

one of five standing committees such as Apostolic Life, Spiritual Life or Rosary makers. A typical Sodalist might spend about three hours on committee work over the course of a year, but impact is exponential.

Sodality holds monthly meetings with topics ranging from spiritual talks to social gatherings. Some Sodality meetings are combined with other parish events such as Adult Faith classes or Respect for Life meetings. Each Sodalist is welcome to attend the meetings that fit her schedule. And friends and prospective members are always welcome!



St. Raphael Sodality

is a community of women, who with Mary our Blessed Mother as our model, pray and work together in service to Christ in every area of life, family, work, and in all professional, civic, and ecclesiastic activities. The purpose of the Sodality is to grow in faith and love of God and to transmit this to others.



Sodality organizes volunteers

to respond to requests from various parish groups and ministries. Working alongside friends in Sodality helps our large parish feel more comfortable.

Sodality members receive a newsletter two or three times each year. Sodality also emails its members about twice each month with prayer requests and intentions as well as news and happenings in the parish.

Sodality connects women, supports women and lifts up women.

*Therefore, encourage one another and build one another up,
as indeed you do. 1 Thessalonians 5:11*

To Jesus through Mary

Our Sodality motto comes from St. Louis de Montfort's book, *True Devotion*, in which he writes that all perfection comes from us being conformed to Jesus. Of all of God's creatures, Mary was the most perfect example of loving Jesus. Therefore, the more we are devoted to Mary, the more we are conformed to Jesus. St. Louis also writes "...our good works, passing through Mary's hands, are progressively purified. Consequently, their merit and their satisfactory and prayer value are also increased."



Sodality includes women

of all ages and stages in life - new moms in their 20s, single career women, SUV-driving suburban school moms, retired women, widows, and seriously fabulous ladies in independent living. The sharing of faith and friendship across generations is one of the loveliest blessings of Sodality.

Any woman

resident in or associated with St. Raphael Parish who is willing to cooperate in the work of the Sodality by attending meetings and participating in committee activities is invited to join Sodality.



Sodality fits your life

Some of the Sodality meetings are held in the evenings and some are held during the day – you can choose the meetings that best fit your work and home schedule. The committee work of Sodality is flexible and can be arranged by each Sodalist around her other commitments. The spiritual work of Sodality –its most important work of Sodalists supporting each other and the parish through prayer - is the ultimate 'flexible work arrangement.'

*She reaches out her hands to the poor,
and extends her arms to the needy.* Proverbs 31:20



Sodality operates

on the dues paid by members. Sodality dues support corporal works of mercy such as scholarships for seminarians, vestments for new priests and supplies for Rosary making. Sodality dues also support spiritual works of mercy such as underwriting retreats and religious talks and offering Masses for deceased friends and family.

Sodality welcomes all women of the parish and does not deny membership to active Sodalists who may be unable to pay dues. Our sisterhood in Christ is priceless!

An example for the next generation

Many of us have a grandmother, mother or aunt who was a beautiful example for us of living our Catholic faith. She was active in the parish several days a week and seemed to know everyone at Sunday Mass. She was always making a casserole for someone and passing around the names of those who needed prayers. When times got tough, she never let go of her Rosary. Now it's your turn...



*To learn more about sharing in the
grace and blessings of Sodality,*

please contact

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Dear Heavenly Father, please weave the women of St. Raphael into a beautiful tapestry of faith and friendship. Let us be woven by your Holy Spirit with our eyes and hearts set upon Christ our Savior. Help us shine with the light of Christ and draw souls to Jesus. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Amen.

Bear one another's burdens, and so you will fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2