Saint Raphael Parish

514 High Street

West Medford, Massachusetts 02155

Phone: 781-483-5444. Fax: 781-483-3375 www.saintraphaelparish.org

October, 2025

Dear Parishioner and Friend,

Many have often expressed to me their gratitude to be part of a parish that is blessed in so many ways. Our church, parish center, school and convent provide a vibrant setting to live out Christ's command 'to love God and neighbor' by worship, prayer, learning and social gathering.

As Pastor, I am also grateful for the additional assistance of my brother priests during this past year. It has allowed me to better serve you and the entire parish.

It is no surprize that our parish faces constantly increasing costs. They include operating expenses such as personnel costs, routine building upkeep, utility costs, insurance premiums, and office expenses.

This year's upgrades included "assistive listening devices" to help parishioners hear more clearly in church. You may have also noticed that the sound in the church has been enhanced by new microphones on the altar. While heat and utility bills increase, your continued support of our LED lighting project has had a positive effect on the parish electric bill.

Often times needs arise unexpectedly. Among these are repairs to the elevator in the parish center; replacing the electrical panel in the convent and other needed work in parish buildings. Also included was the need to replace those many shingles that the wind storm in March took from the Church roof.

The needs for the coming year include painting the inside of the church and the trim of the parish center. A project that was delayed from last year due to unexpected repairs is the replacement of many paver bricks in both the courtyard and access walkways. Finally, the time is approaching when the roof of the convent will need to be replaced.

Of course your first priority will always be the needs of your family. With that in mind, I suggest that you make a gift this year of \$350.00. It is the same suggestion that I have made for the past 3 years.

Keep in mind that you may participate through the Parish "on-line giving program". More information is available on the Parish website. Once again, I respectfully request your participation in our Annual Parish Support collection that is scheduled for the weekend of October 25 and 26, 2025.

My deepest appreciation for your faithful commitment to our Parish. Be assured that you and your family are always in my prayers.

May God Bless You,

Dalt. Cyj

Rev. Paul F. Coughlin, Pastor