

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

St. Raphael School Journal

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Newsletter
September 2020



Kontakion of St. Raphael the Bishop of Brooklyn

You were a guardian and a defender of the Church's teaching: you protected your flock from false doctrines and confirmed them in the true faith. O holy father Raphael, son of Syria and glory of North America, always intercede before the Lord that our souls may be saved.

Perfect Love

By Sophia Tsikouris – Student Submission

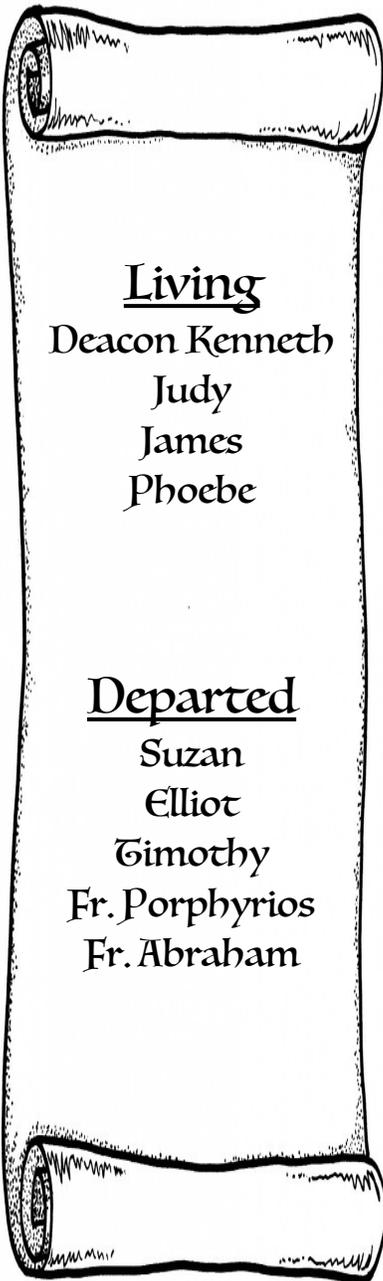
In the time of this virus there is great fear and suffering, but there is only one remedy for this pandemic, love. Exactly, what is love? In our world love is sometimes thought of as a fluffy romantic feeling. The Bible, which is the answer to all of our problems, says in 1st John 4:18 that there is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. Especially, during these difficult times, some have immense fear, even within our homes. Within our homes we have to strive to have perfect love for our siblings, parents, grandparents and other family members. In times of worldly suffering our love can make an impact on how our family handles this current pandemic.

This Coronavirus is testing our love to our neighbor, in this case our neighbors can be our family. Another bible teaching is, love thy neighbor as thyself as found in Mathew 22:39. That's something we all need to work on. Usually, we focus on showing love to our friends, but now that we are confined to our homes it's time to strive for perfect love inside the home

You may view the remainder of this essay [here](#)..

St. Raphael School Journal

Prayer List



Living

Deacon Kenneth

Judy

James

Phoebe

Departed

Suzan

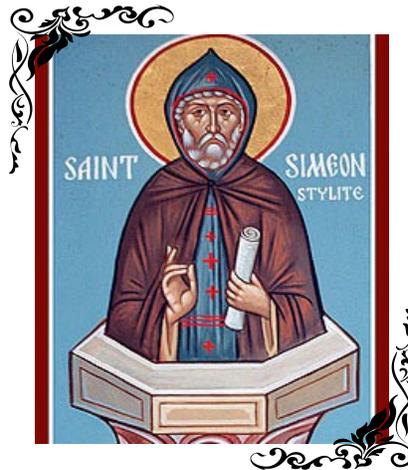
Elliot

Timothy

Fr. Porphyrios

Fr. Abraham

Featured Saint



You were a pillar of patient endurance,
having imitated the forefathers, O
Venerable One:

Job in suffering, and Joseph in
temptations.

You lived like the bodiless ones while
yet in the flesh, O Simeon, our Father.
Beseech Christ God that our souls may
be saved.

- *Troparion, Tone 1*

“You must work spiritually not only
until you see the fruit in your soul, but
also until your very end. For even ripe
fruit is often destroyed by hail.”

- *St. Ephraim the Syrian*

Feasts of the Month

New Calendar

September 1

The Beginning of
the Church's Year

September 1

Symeon the
Stylites

September 7

Martyr Sozon of
Cilicia

September 8

The Nativity of the
Most Holy
Theotokos

September 24

Holy Protomartyr
Thecla, Equal to
the Apostles

September 28

St Chariton the
Confessor of
Palestine

Note From the Editor

Dear St. Raphael Journal readers, thank you for checking out our newsletter! It wouldn't be possible without all the amazing support from SRS teachers and staff. If you would like to see more student submissions, please explore the St. Raphael School Journal Website. To submit names for the prayer list or a student submission, feel free to email me [here](#).

Andrea Woolman
Managing Editor & Website Coordinator

2020 School Year - Newsletter Team Introductions



Katherine Thomas
Column Writer

Hi hey hello, friends! My name is Katherine, and I enjoy hearing whether you pronounce it in two or three syllables. I am sixteen years old, but will be seventeen on September fourteenth. This is senior year for me, and my very first year writing for the SRS newsletter; I am so excited and thankful! I love my family and friends, walking to and singing at church, basketball, playing and teaching piano, making food and eating it with my family, swing and folk dancing with friends, and photography (with a focus on people), among too many other interests to list! I never (with few exceptions) go to bed without straightening the living room, I am an optimist, and my favorite coffee hour desert item is probably cherry dump cake - yay fun facts! I hope you all have a wonderful school year!



Andrea Woolman
Managing Editor
Website Coordinator

Bonjour! My name is Andrea Woolman and I am a sixteen year old Iowan girl who loves everything related to literature, music, art, French, and vintage fashion. As I enter into my junior year of high school, I have begun to study Graphic Design through a local community college.

During my free time, I love to read books such as *Lord of the Rings*, *Dracula*, *Pride & Prejudice*, and *Sherlock Holmes*. If ever you have a spare moment, read one of these! I guarantee you won't regret it. :) In addition to reading, I also love to sing and practice the violin. Although I am not formally employed, I paint commissioned watercolor pet portraits on the side to help support my dream of one day attending college.

2020 School Year - Newsletter Team Introductions



Erika Kjendal
Column Writer

Hello! I'm Erika Kjendal, and I am so happy to be the News Column Editor this upcoming year! I'll help to keep you all informed on what's going on in the SRS classes, and I am very thankful to have a great group of class advocates that report with first hand knowledge on all the exciting happenings in their classes.

I really enjoy the editing role I have in the journal, and I also love the other side of the process: writing. Stories, essays, more stories... Pen and paper is my preferred method of delivery, but I have a wide range of interests when it comes to what I write. Some other things I enjoy are music, dance, art, and the outdoors. I love playing piano and singing, and I sing in my church's choir. I do Irish step dance, and I've been doing it for many years now and really enjoy it!

Some quick facts about me now: I'm going into tenth grade. I'm the oldest of nine siblings, and my dad is the priest at the Antiochian parish in Cape Cod, Massachusetts. That's my quick rundown, and I'm looking forward to another great year with SRS!



John Dye
Column Writer

Hello! My name is John Dye. I have a wide variety of interests, including but not limited to: basketball, amateur photography, keeping my room clean, and ice cream. I also enjoy playing piano and guitar, as well as hanging out with friends and family. I've been studying with St. Raphael School for 5 or 6 years now, and am constantly astounded by the many faces I meet, and the experiences and memories I have taken part in and made along the way. It really is a privilege to be part of the SRS Newsletter Team, and I can't wait to see what surprises the 2020-2021 school year holds. Stay safe, and have a wonderful day!

2020 School Year - Newsletter Team Introductions



Thea Frederick
Column Writer

Hello! My name is Thea Frederick and I live in Denton, Texas. I most enjoy reading good literature, doing photography, baking, fiddling, rock climbing, and dreaming about the English and Irish countryside. I am a junior in high school and looking forward to this year of school and meeting new people!



Meet the Newsletter Team!

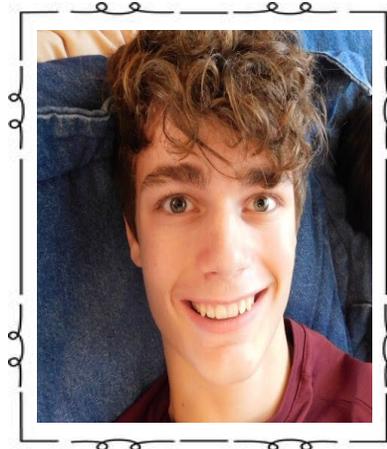
Katherine Thomas



Column Writer

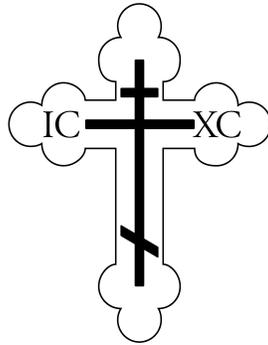
*"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, and love, and of a sound mind."
- 2 Timothy 1:7*

John Dye



Column Writer

*"Behold, I have commanded you. Be strong and courageous. Do not be cowardly or fearful, for the Lord your God is with you in all things, wherever you go."
- Joshua 1:9*



Erika Kjendal



Column Writer

*"Any soul that seriously and constantly desires joy will never miss it. Those who seek find. To those who knock it is opened."
- C.S. Lewis*

Andrea Woolman



Managing Editor
Website Coordinator

*"The person, be it a gentleman or lady, who has not pleasure in a good novel, must be intolerably stupid."
- Jane Austen*

Thea Frederick



Column Writer

*"If you have the strength to be thankful in troubles then that is when the Holy Spirit shines through you."
- Elder Arsenie*