

Hello Parish Family of St. Raphael's:

The excitement is mounting as we start to slowly move toward gathering in limited numbers while taking all the appropriate precautions! We decided the time might be right to begin celebrating the beautiful prayer that our blessed Mother asked us all to pray - **THE ROSARY!!**

She came down to earth and specifically asked the three children of Fatima to pray for the world. Can't you just hear our Blessed Mother asking our children and all of us to pray the rosary now more than ever?!!!!!!

Well- let's all respond to her request!! We are inviting all the children of the parish to help us build a **"Rock Rosary"** around the statue of our blessed mother on the lawn directly opposite the front doors of the church. The instructions are simple. All you need to do is:

Decorate 2-3 rocks that are about 3 inches by 3 inches big.

You can paint them white or blue or any color you like and then paint a picture of anything you are thankful for. This could be your parents, your house, flowers, trees, the sun, the stars etc.... The more colorful the better!!!!

We need **53 rocks that are 3 inches by 3 inches!!!** These are for the Hail Mary's

We also need **15 rocks that are bigger (maybe 6-7 inches by 6-7 inches) which will be the Our Father and Glory Be and the Apostles Creed**

Please put your first name on the bottom of your rocks!!

Please let us know if you want to bring the larger rocks!!!

We will meet every Friday from 7 pm to 7:30 pm beginning Friday July 31st. If you prefer to participate via our livestream, just drop off your rocks in the lobby by the parish office.

What to Expect:

- We will start saying the rosary together. Whoever is saying the prayer, will place their rock in the outline of the rosary that we will prepare. Volunteers will be there to guide you
- Please wear a mask
- We will keep a good distance between us
- PLEASE NOTE: you can also sit in your cars and we can place your rock into the rosary if you feel more comfortable doing that.
- We will meet every Friday until our rosary is complete!!! It may take us all summer- but we will do it and what a tribute to our Lord Jesus and our Blessed Mother!!!!!!

Please register at - <https://www.osvhub.com/straphaelnj/forms/rock-rosary>

God bless you,

Denise Flanagan and Mary Gayle Scheper