

Raphael's Refuge, Inc.

+ *A Place of Healing* +

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December Newsletter, 2017

Exterior Memorial Walls – The foundations and sidewalks for the first six memorial walls have been completed – a great blessing! The majority of the funding for the foundations and sidewalks was provided by an exceptionally generous memorial donation from dear friends, Betty and Ed Capen. In time, there will be 12 walls radiating from the center of the Monument, like rays from the sun. There will be space for thousands of glass blocks!



Entrance Sidewalk -- We expect to have the long awaited sidewalk poured by the end of this year. It is to begin at the road, wrap around the Cross of Light, and extend to the main entrance. Later, seating will be added in the cross area and lighting installed.

Parking – Due to the above construction, parking possibilities for the Monument have changed. Parking is now only available on the right side of the roadways and the two parking lots. For the Feast Day celebration, there will be people present to help direct traffic. On that day, please use the new

exit road. A right turn at the end of the road will lead directly to Highway 90.

The Feast Day of the Holy Innocents Celebration, Thursday, 12/28 –

Reminder: Beginning at 10:15 a.m., there will be a rosary, followed by announcements, and Christmas carols. Mass will begin at 11:00 a.m. Refreshments will follow. Though last year, it was a glorious, warm day, typically it is very cold inside the Chapel, even with all doors closed. If there is an overflow crowd, the doors will have to be left open, *so please dress accordingly.*”

Blessings – We now have four albs and six cinctures available for visiting priests, thanks to Alice and Richard Cernosek. Another donor has blessed us with two beautiful altar cloths, plus a lace covered throne for presentation of the Blessed Sacrament. Danny Vyvjala has again donated many hours tending the grounds at the Refuge, making a beautiful difference for all to enjoy. To the above friends and to the many others who have helped this year, your prayers, labor, and donations are deeply appreciated. You make possible what Raphael’s Refuge is and what it does.

Pews –To date, 14 of our 24 pews have been sponsored. If interested in sponsoring a pew for you, your family, or organization, the suggested donation is \$1,000.

Big Changes Coming 2018 – As my July retirement nears, please pray for a smooth transition. We do not know who will be the main person in charge or who will be responsible for the many related tasks. We will be needing lots of help! Please let me know if you can donate some time. I expect there will be various changes in our operations, but for now, everything will remain the same.

Best wishes for a Christmas Season filled with peace, joy, and love,

Midge

