

**"May the God of Love and Peace Set Your Heart At Rest"
St. Raymond**



Welcome to St. Raymond of Peñafort Roman Catholic Church

**8750 Pohick Road
Springfield, VA 22153**

WEEKEND MASSES:
Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 7:00 am, 9:00 am (Latin-
English), 11:00 am and 1:00 pm

WEEKDAY MASSES:
Monday - Friday:
6:30 am & 8:30 am
7:00 pm on Wednesdays
Saturday: 9:00 am

Website: www.straymonds.org

Rev. John C. De Celles, Pastor
Rev. Joseph D. Bergida, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Edward R. Horkan, In Residence
Elisabeth Turco, Director of Liturgical Music
Jeanne Sause, Director of Youth Apostolate
Virginia Osella, Director of Religious Education
Mary Hansen, Religious Education Secretary
Michael Thompson, Plant Manager
Maerose Naduvilekunnel, Business Manager
Elizabeth Frazee, Secretary
Dominique Murray, Office Assistant
Catherine Hansen, Intern
Mary Butler, Parish Secretary

PARISH OFFICE Telephone Numbers:

Rectory: 703-440-0535
Rel. Education: 703-440-0537
Fax: 703-440-0538

Office Hours
Monday-Friday 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

Email

Church: Office@straymonds.org
Pastor: fdc@straymonds.org
Rel. Ed.: ReligiousEducation@straymonds.org

TUITION ASSISTANCE: Please inquire with our office about the availability of partial scholarships for the upcoming school year.

Angelus Academy
7644 Dynatech Ct, Springfield, VA 22153
703-924-3996

Angelus Academy is a fully-accredited pre-K through 8th grade Catholic School affiliated with the Diocese of Arlington. Although it has no official connection with St. Raymond's, the parish has a longstanding close relationship with Angelus Academy. Many of our parish children already happily attend school there.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE (Reconciliation/Confession)

Wednesday Evening
6:15 - 7:00 pm (during Exposition)
Saturday Morning
8:00 - 9:00 am
Saturday Afternoon
3:30 - 5:00 pm
Sunday Morning
8:30-9:00 am and 10:30-11:00 am

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Wednesday from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm
Friday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
First Fridays 9:00 am Friday - 9:00 Saturday (Overnight)

MARRIAGE: Couples wishing to marry must contact a parish priest at least 6 months prior to the desired wedding date. Couples who are living together will be expected to live separately at least during the 3 months prior to the wedding.

RCIA: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process by which adults (and children who have reached the age of reason) are instructed in the Doctrine of the Church and are prepared to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist. If you or someone you know, would like to inquire about becoming a Catholic, please call the Parish Office.

BAPTISM: Parents are requested to make arrangements with the Parish Office ONE MONTH in advance. Parents must participate in a one-session pre-Baptismal program and are encouraged to do so before the birth of their child. You must be REGISTERED in the Parish 3 MONTHS prior to the Baptism.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Please submit announcements to bulletin@straymonds.org 10 days prior to publication date.

Pastor's Corner

The pastor is out...the parochial vicar writes.

Ordinations to the Priesthood

The days of May and June are important for the priests of the Diocese of Arlington. Between these two months, most of us celebrate our priestly ordination anniversaries. A week ago, Saturday, June 7, twelve more men were ordained by Bishop Burbidge in St. Thomas More Cathedral. I was blessed not only to be present for their ordinations, but also that evening to attend a reception for one of the newly ordained, Fr. Tuesta. Two days later, June 9, I celebrated my 13th anniversary of ordination. The year I was ordained, the next day was The Solemnity of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. So, my "first Mass" was in honor of this Most Holy Sacrament. Two of my best friends who would be ordained later that month, served as my deacons. I remember after Mass giving many first blessings, hearing my first confession, and a party in the parish hall afterwards. Later that evening, I carried the Blessed Sacrament down the Main Street of my hometown and offered benediction at the town center's square, beneath an elevated Gazebo – truly a memorable *Corpus Christi!*

A Month of Solemnities

Speaking of festivities and celebrations, did you notice that this year all the Sundays of June are celebrated as Solemnities? And we have five of them: The Ascension (June 1), Pentecost (last Sunday), The Most Holy Trinity (this Weekend), *Corpus Christi* (next Sunday) and Peter and Paul, (June 29). Add to that the last full week of June has the Solemnities of the Nativity of John the Baptist (June 24) and the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (June 27), bringing the total number to 7! Furthermore, the whole month of June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart.

The Sacred Heart of Jesus reveals something to us about God's intense love for us and desire to encounter us at the deepest level of our being. A human heart, a heart of flesh and "sinews," illustrates most poignantly God's love for us. As a teenager, I loved kneeling and looking up at the Sacred Heart window above the high altar in Christendom's College Chapel. (This was before the college built the "Highway 66 Cathedral".) In that window, Christ points to his heart with his left hand, His right is raised in blessing. I would ponder over the words below the feet of Jesus inscribed in the window, "Son, Give Me Thy Heart" (a reference to Proverbs 23:26). What does it mean to give Jesus my heart? Why would He want it anyways?

What Jesus really wants of each of us is an exchange of hearts. St. Catherine of Siena reported of a vision she had. A couple years ago [Fr. Patrick Briscoe OP summarized this vision in the publication Our Sunday Visitor](#): "[Catherine] had been praying passionately the words of Psalm 51: 'Create in me a new heart, O God.' Then it was revealed to her, mystically, that Jesus had taken her heart from her side and exchanged it with his own heart. After the exchange, she felt like a new person, able to love in ways that she had not before." Like Catherine, we need to beg Jesus for a new heart. He invites and beckons each of us, "Give me your heart, so that I can give you mine. Give me your heart, your love – weak, fickle, faltering, as it may be. So that I can give you mine – strong, steadfast, and faithful."

Fr. Patrick goes on to comment: "This union of hearts symbolizes the union of wills. To love with the heart of Jesus is to love in accordance with God's plans." It's to love supernaturally not

merely with my own love, but with the very love of God Himself.

John Henry Newman and the Sacred Heart

In the Gospels, Jesus links the heart with speech, "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks" (Mt 12:34). St. John Henry Newman, Catholic convert and intellectual giant, noted this dialoging aspect of the heart even at an internal level. He believed that God speaks inwardly and directly to our hearts out of the abundance of His own. His motto as bishop, *Cor ad cor loquitur* (Heart speaks unto heart), expresses this reality. Newman thought he had taken this phrase from either Scripture or the *Imitation of Christ*. In reality he modified a phrase found in St. Francis De Sales. The phrase, *cor cordi loquitur*, appears in St. Francis de Sales's "Treatise on the Love of God," (Chapter I Book VI): Truly the chief exercise in mystical theology is to speak to God and to hear God speak in the bottom of the heart; and because this discourse passes in most secret aspirations and inspirations, we term it a silent conversing. Eyes speak to eyes, and heart to heart, and none understand what passes save the sacred lovers who speak."

Newman's Coat of arms bears three hearts the motto is in the ribbon of the shield. [The hearts can be interpreted variously](#), as symbolizing the persons of the Trinity, or God speaking to man, or man speaking to man, or man speaking to God. In reality all interpretations are probably present.

Newman also [had a great devotion to the Sacred Heart](#). In a meditation he wrote: "My God, my Saviour, I adore Thy Sacred Heart, for that heart is the seat and source of all Thy tenderest human affections for us sinners. It is the instrument and organ of Thy love. . . . It was on fire through zeal, that the glory of God might be manifested in and by us."

With the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ next Sunday, Newman's prayer below helps make the connection between the Eucharist and the Sacred Heart. This would be a wonderful thanksgiving prayer to make after Communion throughout the month of June:

"O most Sacred, most loving Heart of Jesus, Thou art concealed in the Holy Eucharist, and Thou beatest for us still... I worship Thee then with all my best love and awe, with my fervent affection, with my most subdued, most resolved will.

O my God, when Thou dost condescend to suffer me to receive Thee, to eat and drink Thee, and Thou for a while takest up Thy abode within me, O make my heart beat with Thy Heart.

Purify it of all that is earthly, all that is proud and sensual, all that is hard and cruel, of all perversity, of all disorder, of all deadness. So fill it with Thee, that neither the events of the day nor the circumstances of the time may have power to ruffle it, but that in Thy love and Thy fear it may have peace."

Summer Re-creation

This Friday, summer officially begins. Make sure vacations and summer activities are truly times of re-creation, not merely relaxation or escape. Changing our pace of life and switching up our normal activities can have good physiological, psychological, and spiritual benefits. But we also need unchanging elements. Maintaining some modified personal and family summer routine is important for avoiding idleness and near occasions of sin. Keep the kids and yourselves off electronics and outdoors. Remember there is no vacation from your vocation. Sunday Mass (more frequently if possible) and daily prayer keep your heart in dialogue with His! Drop into Church this summer; let your heart rest on His. And remember, proudly display those Sacred Heart flags we gave you last year.

In Corde Jesu,

Rev. Joseph D. Bergida

MASS INTENTIONS

<p>Monday, June 16th 6:30 am Father's Day Triduum 8:30 am Bishop Michael Burbidge</p> <p>Tuesday, June 17th 6:30 am Caleb Schweitzer 8:30 am Father's Day Triduum</p> <p>Wednesday, June 18th 6:30 am Rodney Allen Cruz + 8:30 am PFC Benjamin Park +</p> <p>Thursday, June 19th 10:00 am Joe Riedel +</p> <p>Friday, June 20th 6:30 am Hayden Smith + 8:30 am Emily Severn</p>	<p>Saturday, June 21st 9:00 am Family of Jesus Prayer Group</p> <p>Vigil Mass 5:00 pm Fr. Bergia Conswela Inacay + & Lilia Relyasa +</p> <p>Sunday, June 22nd 7:00 am Fr. Horkan Sheila Swenson</p> <p>9:00 am Fr. De Celles Parishioners</p> <p>11:00 am Msgr. Rippy Arsenio Veneracion, Jr. +</p> <p>1:00 pm Fr. Bergida Family of Jesus Prayer Group</p>
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View livestreaming of the Holy Mass at St. Raymond's!

www.straymonds.org

Monday - Friday Daily Mass at 8:30 am

Saturday at 9:00 am

Sunday Mass at 9:00 am & 11:00 am

(See the website for Holy Days)

Daily Family Rosary leaders needed! St. Raymond's has a Daily Family Rosary in the church: Mon-Fri at 6:30pm and Saturday and Sunday after the 9am Mass. **Please visit our website to sign up to lead during June!** All are invited to attend.

Legion of Mary Feast Day Promotions on June 22. The Legion of Mary is sponsoring a promotion / information table in the narthex, June 22. Emphasis will be on the feast days of Sacred Heart of Jesus and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (in conjunction with the brown scapular enrollment). Free Literature, holy cards and replacement brown scapulars will be available. All are welcome! For the summer the Tuesday 6:30 pm Legion of Mary meetings will be moved to the Maurer Room.

Junior Legion of Mary. Children between the ages of 7 – 12+ at St. Raymond's who have received their First Holy Communion and parents seeking an extracurricular activity that enriches a young person's spiritual life and engages them in age-appropriate spiritual works of mercy under the spiritual direction of Father Bergida, please consider joining the Junior Legion of Mary. Meetings will be every Tuesday, 4:15-5:15pm, in the rectory Maurer Room. Two adult members of the Legion (Virtus certified) lead the meetings. Parents are welcome to attend / participate. Please email Patty Miller, pamiller35@gmail.com, or call / text her at: C - 703-663-0480.

Watch for our Constant Contact Updates! If you are not receiving emails from the parish, please contact the parish office at 703-440-0535 or office@straymonds.org.

Please pray for our parishioners serving in Combat Zones and their families. If you have a relative serving in harm's way and would like to have his/her name included in our prayer list, please contact the parish office.

Brian Groth Elizabeth Archer

Please pray for the sick of our parish

Glenn Bliss Tom Dietz Michael O'Neill Cindy Laird Patricia Lewis Mai Pham Jason Saenz Phyllis Zitnik John Florio Carolina Baker	Debra Henkel Gaudencio Dizon Paul Haynes Nena Brennan Serrin Foster Donald Trayer Ellen Trayer Arlene Pietraszko Virginia Cummings Mary M. Dixon Edward J. Susank	Helen Zogaib Helen Estabrooks Annette Haynes Beth Fitzgibbons Jean Keegan Margaret M. Hill Bill Roche Florence Miller Robert Petitti Richard Buettner Joann Alba
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Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church

- June 15-17** Father's Day Triduum of Masses
- June 16** Family of Jesus Prayer Group
- June 17** Junior Legion of Mary 4:15-5:15pm Maurer Room
- June 17** Legion of Mary 6:30pm Library
- June 18** Adoration 9am-7pm
- June 19** Juneteenth- Parish Offices Closed- 10 am Mass only
- June 19** No Bridge Club
- June 20** Adoration Fri. 9am- 3pm
- June 21** Men's Prayer Group
- June 22** Legion of Mary Feast Day Promotions in Narthex
- June 22** Corpus Christi Procession and Ice Cream social after 1pm Mass

FRIDAY ADORERS URGENTLY NEEDED- Friday Adorers needed at all time slots between 9am and 1pm. Please consider spending an hour with Our Lord during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. If you would like to sign up for Fridays, please call Elizabeth Frazee in the parish office at 703-440-0535. . If you are interested to sign up for Wednesdays, please call Leslie Schratz at 703-569-1940.

Family of Jesus Prayer Group: Weekly meetings are in the Church on Mondays at 3:00 pm. If you have any prayer requests, please us know by emailing Elaine Perricone at ipebtp@verizon.net or by calling the parish office. You may also write down your prayer requests and drop them in the "Prayer Box" on the table in the narthex of the church.

Men's Prayer Group: On the first and third Saturdays of each month a group of men meet in the parish hall to pray and read the Scriptures. **Our next meeting will be June 21st.** For more information, call Dave Wilson, 703-966-5327 or email maryndavew7705@gmail.com.

Corpus Christi Procession, June 22— The procession will take place in the church after the 1pm Mass. Please join us for an INDOOR Procession, Adoration & Benediction. 1 pm Mass attendees and all parishioners are encouraged to join in this special celebration to honor and worship Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Most Blessed Sacrament. Please join us for an Ice Cream Social immediately following in the Parish Hall.



MEN OF THE PARISH ... A CALL TO ACTION! The Knights of Columbus need men ... men like you! Men with a bias towards action, coupled with a desire to put that action into their Faith, and their Faith into Action!

Now is the time to step into the breach, take action to strengthen your faith, serve others, and be a positive force in your church and your community! There is no better time than now to join the finest council in all of Virginia, the St. John Bosco Council #12846, a council which combines faith, charity, unity, and fraternity in everything it does. Take that step ... **JOIN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS!** Go to <https://www.kofc.org/joinus> to experience the Knights for one year free of dues. Leave the representative code blank, but enter council # **12846** for local information upon registration. For more information or to learn more about the many benefits of being a Knight, please contact our Grand Knight, Mark Lawton, at (703) 576-7693 or by email at mark_cindy85@msn.com.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- 6/21 - Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 6/28 - Installation of Council Officers (FY25/26)

HELP NEEDED—USHERS AND LECTORS: Please consider volunteering to be an Usher or a Lector at Mass. Contact the parish office if interested, call 703-440-0535.

Urgent Need for Christ House and Gift Shop leaders! Please consider volunteering your time for two very worthy causes. Those leadership seats are or will be vacant soon! Please call the parish office if interested at 703-440-0535. God bless you!

Following St. Joseph to Jesus – Men's Silent Retreat
He played an essential role in the greatest event in human history; husband to Mary, adopted Father of Jesus Christ, a quiet carpenter... and a righteous man. Aside from these things we don't know much about St. Joseph — but what we do know can help us to be better Men...husbands, and fathers. Join Fr. John Riley at our Arlington Diocese Retreat Center at the edge of the Shenandoah Mountains in White Post, VA to "rest and pray" with Christ. This retreat begins at 6 pm Friday July 11th and concludes Sunday July 13th with lunch at noon. Retreat cost is \$285. For further information, please contact Father John Riley at: john.riley@arlingtondiocese.org For more information about San Damiano and retreats being offered in the months ahead, please visit www.arlingtondiocese.org/retreat



Summer Library Extended Hours and Reading Program. Come visit the parish Library! There's something for everyone! Saturdays 1-5. Sundays 10-2. Thursday 3 July 9:30-11:30. Fridays June 13, July 11, 25 and August 1 from 9:30-11:30. Sign Up Sheets for the **15th Annual Pre-K - Grade 8 Summer Reading Program** are available in the narthex, library, parish office and website! *"You will not find anyone who is truly striving after his spiritual advancement who is not given to spiritual reading."* St Athanasius

PARISH PICNIC—please mark your calendars!
Sunday, August 24th from 2pm-5pm

SAINT RAYMOND'S RESPECTS LIFE

TRAGICALLY VIRGINIA IS BECOMING AN ABORTION DESTINATION.

Save the date. Saturday 12 JULY. A new abortion facility has opened near Tysons Corner - a location (close to Dulles and the metro) specifically chosen to 'serve' out-of-staters where abortion is restricted. The abortionist moved here from TX after they enacted pro-life legislation. Join Bishop Burbidge for 8:30 am Mass at St John the Beloved in McLean immediately followed by the Rosary on the public sidewalk in front of 'Meadow Reproductive Health and Wellness' at 1749 Old Meadow Road, McLean. The facility will not be open for business that day, but the spiritual battle rages on every day.

Be not complacent! Stay informed! Make your voice heard.
There is a fast-tracking move afoot in the Virginia Assembly to make abortion a constitutional human right in our Commonwealth.

Both chambers of the VA Assembly approved a constitutional amendment which would allow abortion at any point in pregnancy. The amendment *which cannot be vetoed by the governor* would also eliminate parental consent and health protections for women and girls, force taxpayers to fund abortion as well as eliminate our current law limiting abortion at 27 weeks. **Sample letters to members of the General Assembly are available in the narthex.**

MaRiH Pregnancy Care Center. We proudly partner with MaRiH (Mary Rose in Haste – to help Elizabeth) as they serve local expectant mothers in need. Knowing each child has an unrevealed holy purpose, MaRiH volunteers strive to see the face of God in the mothers and families they help. **Thank you for generously supporting this work of mercy.** Donations welcome in the narthex collection box near the elevator. marih.org. There is a great need for diapers, formula, wipes, clothes up to 2T. **Please do not leave bouncy seats, walkers, gates or jogging strollers. Thank you for your understanding.**

To those who have suffered an abortion:

Do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope. **The Father of Mercies** is ready to give you His Forgiveness and His Peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation." **Project Rachel** helps women and men who are carrying the grief and sorrow of a past abortion. (888)456-HOPE. Men: (703) 841-3833. Confidentiality always respected. www.helpafterabortion.org.

THE ABORTION PILL now accounts for up to 60% of all abortions. Women often regret the desperate isolated decision to take the abortion pill. Call the abortion reversal helpline 855-209-4848. **It may not be too late. abortionpillreversal.com.**

Do you need a personal consultation on real-life (not hypothetical) medical or legal decisions? The **National Catholic Bioethics Center** has the training, expertise, and magisterial fidelity to help you form your conscience with trustworthy resources and confidential, person-to-person interaction. Please visit to www.ncbcenter.org/ consultation-form An ethicist will generally respond within 5 business days. Need an answer sooner? Please call us (24/7) at 215-877-2660.

The Power of Prayer. Abortionists and those who work in the abortion industry trespass against us. Yet how much more they offend Almighty God! As June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we suffer anew the reality that every abortion stops a beating heart which was created to love Our Lord. Every abortion also deforms the abortionist and desensitizes him or her to the humanity of both the mother and child violated through abortion. **Pray fervently for the conversion of abortionists.** Somehow most have been led astray by greed, ignorance, a misguided sense of compassion or perhaps evil itself. Yet the Sacred Heart of Jesus beats for love of them too.

St. Raymond's Youth Apostolate

<https://straymonds.org/ministries-and-groups/youth-apostolate/>

*All are welcome to participate in Youth Apostolate events.
Make sure forms are signed and on file. <http://bit.ly/YAforms>

June 23-June 27

St. Raymond's Week of Faith, Fun & Service!

Open to ALL High School Students
including rising 9th graders & HS Class of 2025

You must **commit to the FULL day** of events for the day(s) you sign up for. You do **not** have to commit to the full week.

Monday 6/23: DC Pilgrimage & Hike with Fr. Bergida

Brief summary of Monday: Dominican House of Studies, Prayer with the Friars, Talk by Father Gregory Pine, O.P., Franciscan Monastery, 3.5 mile Hike at Rock Creek Park & Picnic Dinner

Tuesday 6/24: FBI Tour & Catholic Information Center

FBI Tour, Adoration at CIC (3rd anniversary of Dobbs decision), talk by an Opus Dei priest

Wednesday 6/25: Service for Mary's Shelter & Mason Neck State Park (Kayaking, Adoration & Confession)

Help out at Mary's Shelter in Fredericksburg, then spend a few hours at Mason Neck State Park kayak/hike/hang, then holy hour at St. Raymond's

Thursday 6/26: Various Service Projects for Parishioners & Fun Evening at St. Raymond's

Help parishioners with yard work, painting, etc. then come back to St. Raymond's for a laid back afternoon of fun and games

Friday 6/27: White Water Rafting in Ohiopyle, PA

Full day between driving and 4hr rafting adventure!

Website for More Info. & to Register:

<https://bit.ly/FFSWEEK>

Registration deadline Tuesday June 17th

Friday, June 20: High School Bible Study (7-8pm Library)

Grow in faith and meet new people at the same time! BYOB (Bring Your Own Bible)...and a friend! Everyone is invited to join us for the parish family rosary at 6:30pm too! This will be the last Bible Study for a few weeks due to White Water Rafting, Independence Day, and Steubenville. **After June 20, Bible Study will resume July 18.**

Attention Class of 2025! The Associates of Saint John Bosco (ASJB), will host five free **College Nights** this summer for graduated seniors heading to college in the fall. One of these nights will take place at the **Basilica of Saint Mary Lyceum** (313 Duke Street) at **7pm on July 22**. These events help rising college freshmen network with other Catholics heading to college, and give them the tools to navigate the transition from high school to college, keeping their Catholic faith strong. Students walk away with a free bundle of Catholic books to take to college to help deepen their faith while away at school. The events come with a pizza dinner, too. Registration is FREE! For additional dates, locations and information, www.asjb.org/student-registration

Thursday Night Hangouts for College Students & Graduating High School Seniors:

The George Mason University Catholic Campus Ministry is hosting Thursday Night Gatherings from 7-9pm every Thursday in June and July for college students and graduating high school seniors at Robert Bellarmine Chapel, 4515 Roberts Rd.

Jeanne Sause

Director of the Youth Apostolate (Grades 7-12)

youth@straymonds.org Call/Text: 571-334-9890

Email Jeanne to be added to the weekly email list for the most updated info on Youth Apostolate news & upcoming events!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Happy Father's Day!

Parents: It is time to register for 2025-26 CCD classes! Registrations received after July 31 will be subject to a \$25 late fee. Did you know that students who attend Catholic School or are homeschooling are more than welcome to attend CCD classes at St. Raymond's? **All Catholic School and homeschool students intending to receive First Holy Communion or Confirmation at St. Raymond's must register with the RE office** even if they will not attend classes. Please reach out with any questions

If you or someone you know is looking for a rewarding way to volunteer for the parish, please consider joining our wonderful team of teachers. We are in need of the following volunteers for the 2025-2026 academic year:

Sunday (5-6:30 pm):

2nd grade Teacher
3rd grade Teacher
7th grade Assistant

Monday (4:45-6:15 pm):

3rd grade Assistant
7th grade Assistant
8th grade Assistant

The Office of Victim Assistance has scheduled Pilgrimage of Hope Masses throughout the Diocese for those who are suffering. All are welcome to join in prayer for those in need at St. Paul Mission, Hague on Friday, June 27th at 8:30 am and at the Basilica of St. Mary, Alexandria on Saturday, July 19th, at 8:30 am. Reception to follow/fellowship and refreshments following Mass. See the flyer in the Narthex for the complete list of Masses scheduled through late October.

Chesterton Academy of Christ the King will be opening in the Fall of 2026, hopefully at St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Alexandria. The more than 70 Chesterton Academies nationwide are known for their strong spiritual formation anchored in daily Mass as well as their rigorous, integrated classical curriculum oriented toward the good, the true, and the beautiful. Chesterton high schools form joyful, faithful, curious, articulate, and resilient young men and women prepared for college and for life. Parent information sessions will be held throughout the summer. Visit Chesterton-ChristTheKing.org to learn more, [connect with us here](#), or [register to attend an upcoming information session](#) (June 28, or July 16)



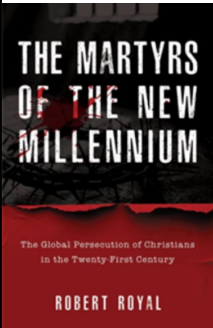
Our Lady of Ransom Scholarships to Catholic Schools are Available.

Please send requests for 2025-26 tuition assistance to Fr. De Celles or contact the parish office for more information. We can also help cover homeschooling expenses.

Saint Raymond's Art Camp 2025 Join us for the first Saint Raymond's Art Camp 2025 held in the parish hall from nine to noon July 14-17. To find out more information scan this QR code. This camp is for rising 1st through 12th grade students.



CHURCH PERSECUTED



Dr. Robert Royal’s book, *The Martyrs of the New Millennium, Global Persecution of Christianity in the Twenty-First Century* (2025 Sophia Institute Press), warns that “North America is not immune to the several problems for Christians.... There are...cases in the United State of praying near abortion clinics, offenses against ‘woke’ pieties, and even church burnings, to say nothing about constant pressures on Christian institutions—Churches, schools, even religious orders—to accept contraception, abortion, homosexual employees, and much more in hiring and insurance programs. A [then]

Catholic U.S. president, Joseph Biden, stated boldly that “transgender equality is the civil rights issue of our times.”

Fortunately, President Biden is no longer president and President Trump is working to rid the country of many of these “woke” biases in employment and education. Unfortunately, in our own Fairfax County, the public school system has ignored both a presidential and state governor’s directive to eliminate programs and policies which allows students to be called by a name or sex other than their birth sex without parental permission, and the use of classroom materials which depict so-called same-sex marriage as something natural.

The Montgomery County school system has been sued by Muslim parents for not allowing them to opt their kindergarten children out of a story time where transgender activities are being promoted as normal. The case was argued before the U.S. Supreme Court in early May.

Oregon high school athletes protested their state high jump because the winner was a male who “transitioned” to be a woman. A California high school trans athlete won the high jump and triple jump at the state track and field meet.

Pro-family legal organizations have been taking these cases to court to protect the integrity of women’s athletics. As Dr. Royal notes, “...the new ethos has spilled over into something more than soft persecution in ways that the legal system is slow to act on, and often does not act at all. Unless this tendency is recognized for what it is—creeping coercion bordering on persecution—and halted, it bodes ill for religious liberty.”



Angelus Academy

Where the truth of Catholic teaching takes flesh in the lives of Pre-K - 8th graders and their families.

There are limited spots available in some grades for the 2024-25 school year, but spaces are going fast!

Apply soon!

[AngelusAcademy.org/admissions-overview/applying/](https://www.AngelusAcademy.org/admissions-overview/applying/)

Call or Email Julie Maimone, Director of Admissions, at Admissions@angelusacademy.org for more information or to schedule a tour.

Come visit us and see why our students love coming to school. Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

www.AngelusAcademy.org 703-924-3996
7644 Dynatech Ct., Springfield, VA 22153

Angelus Academy is seeking a new **Head of School**. The Head of School, working closely with the Director of School Mission, will embody, manifest, and advocate the mission, vision, and culture of the school, as articulated in Angelus Academy's mission statement. The Head of School will be tasked with establishing a rapport with the community, strengthening faculty culture and professional development, and advancing the mission of Catholic classical education. For a full job description or to apply, please email Hannah Brink at board@angelusacademy.org.

John Paul the Great Summer Camps June-August 2025

JP Summer Camps registration is now open! Sign your elementary and middle school-age children up for a variety of athletic and enrichment camps during the summer months. For registration and more details, please visit: <https://www.jpthegreat.org/apps/pages/summeractivities>

Qualified Charitable Distributions

QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION (QCD) If you are 70-1/2 or more, please consider making an IRA Charitable gift to the parish before December 31. If you are 73 or older and need to make required minimum distributions (RMD) from your IRA, your QCD counts toward your annual RMD for the year. **QCDs can have a significant tax benefit for you.** Eligible accounts for QCDs can be made from most IRAs, including Traditional IRAs, Rollover IRAs, Inherited IRAs, and Roth IRAs. **Always consult your Tax professional regarding your specific situation.** Use our parish address: St. Raymond of Penafort Catholic Church, 8750 Pohick Road, Springfield, VA 22153.

SUNDAY OFFERTORY 6/08/2025

Offertory	\$ 14,836.50
Family Assistance	\$ 1,454.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 1,909.00
OLOR Scholarship	\$ 445.00

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Get In-Formed!

See the Formed bulletin board by the central doors of the vestibule for additional suggestions.

Summer with the Saints: Sign up for 12 weeks of faith-filled videos and family-friendly activities, delivered weekly to your inbox, starting June 1st.



Watch: Ignatius of Loyola This modern and very human take on the story of the founder of the Jesuits is an incisive and thrilling look at the life of the real man behind the legend.

For Kids: “For the Greater Glory of God” Song. Christine in Action. Learn the Catholic Faith through music. St. Ignatius of Loyola started the Latin phrase Ad majorem Dei gloriam, abbreviated as AMDG. It is the motto of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits), a religious order within the Catholic Church. In English, it means “for the greater glory of God”

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