

Pastor's Corner

Farewell to the Wheeler Family. As you have probably heard Matt, Jill and Joey Wheeler are relocating to the Blacksburg area, after decades of dedicated service to our parish. They have been one of the most active families in our parish for years, volunteering their time and efforts to actively supporting almost every aspect of our parish. From being part of the crew that set up Masses at the "Holy Fire Hall," to keeping the parish hall kitchen stocked and clean, to being cooks and organizers of various parish dinners and parties.

I particularly want to thank Matt and Jill for running our Youth Apostolate for several years, both under Fr. Gould and myself. And very heartfelt thanks to Matt for serving on the Parish Finance Council for 20 years, being an especially a huge help to me in my first years here in the parish. And a particular thanks to Joey for his steadfast work as an usher at the 8:45 Mass all these years.

I'm sure you all join me in thanking them, and praying for a happy future in their new home.

Farewell to Eva Radel. After 4 years serving St. Raymond's as the best parish secretary in the Diocese, Eva Radel is moving on to work at Holy Family Academy. I really can't say enough about Eva's contributions. She's just been great. We will not only miss her phenomenal administrative skills and creativity, but even more her joyful and warm disposition that makes everyone love her. Thankfully, she will remain a member of the parish, and continue to volunteer in various aspects of parish life—including the Youth Choir.

Thank you Eva, for all you have done. God bless you. See ya in church.

A Warm Welcome to Virginia Osella. Taking over Eva's duties will be Virginia Osella. Virginia is a 2011 graduate of Mary Washington University, and comes to us after 8 years of teaching at Angelus Academy. She has also been a St. Raymond parishioner during most of those years, serving as a cantor, singing in the choir and working with our youth choir. She is also a member of *Women's Apostolate to Youth (WAY)*, an organization which many of you are familiar with, particularly as the founders of Angelus, and of which I am chaplain. She brings a wide variety of experiences and talents for one so young, not the least of which are that she is very intelligent and very kind. I thank the Lord for bringing her to us, and look forward to working with her.

Welcome to your new position, Virginia. You will be in all of our prayers.

Voters Beware. Did you receive a mailer from The Center for Voter Information, that included an application for a mail-in ballot? If so, I recommend you throw it out and just go to the website "elections.virginia.gov" to register to vote and/or to apply for an absentee ballot.

As the Associate Press reported last week: "*Hundreds of thousands of applications for mail-in ballots that a voter-advocacy group sent to voters in Virginia had the wrong return addresses, adding another complication for state election officials who are already hard-pressed to pull off a smooth election in a pandemic.*"

"*The Virginia Department of Elections said the return envelopes were addressed to the wrong election office, which would force election officials to forward the applications to the correct office for processing. Meanwhile, the department said anyone wanting to vote absentee should apply for a ballot through the state's website.*"

"*The problem mailers were sent by The Center for Voter Information, a third-party group not affiliated with the state....The*

Washington-based group, which says it's a non-partisan organization aiming to increase voter participation, had mailed over 2 million applications to voters, The Washington Post reported.

"*About a quarter of them had return envelopes addressed to an inaccurate election office, the center said in a statement. A computer error confused localities with similar names, like Fairfax City and Fairfax County; and Richmond City and Richmond County, The Post reported.*"

THE END OF SUMMER? The end of summer is slowly approaching. What a strange summer that, with the shutdown, had a nebulous beginning and, for many, an equally indistinct end. And in between so much confusion and frustration.

I hope you all were able to rise above all this and enjoy summer as an opportunity to relax and recreate.

For our kids, it's a time to get ready to go back to school, although the form of schooling is going to be problematic for everyone, whether you're going online or in-person (with all the new restrictions and rules).

I pray that God give you the patience and determination to make the best of the situation you find yourself in.

Religious Education. As for St. Raymond's, we will be relaunching our RE/CCD program on September 13th, with **in-person, onsite learning**. Classrooms will be configured to meet social distancing requirements which will reduce the number of students enrolled in each session. **If a parent is uncomfortable** sending their child to class because of medical or other at-risk issues, please contact the Religious Education Office to **discuss at-home learning options**.

Remember, parents are morally obliged to not only teach their children to love Jesus but also to teach them what Jesus and His Church teach, to teach them about Scripture and the Catechism. It's very difficult for most parents to do this on their own in any systematic and comprehensive way. Also I know many parents send their kids to public schools. The problem is that the public schools present an environment and culture that is in many ways antithetical to Christianity.

Public schools have radically changed in the last 20 years—they are not the religiously neutral place they might have once been. We see the effect of this particularly today in our public-school-educated young adults not understanding American history, the Constitution and the free-market, the failures and evils of Socialism and Marxism, and foundational importance of Religious Liberty and free speech.

This is why I continue to strongly encourage all Catholic parents to either homeschool their kids or send them to Catholic schools. But I know that both of these are often too expensive or otherwise impractical for parents. So they send their kids to public schools.

I respect your choice, but that still leaves you with the grave responsibility to teach your children the faith in a comprehensive and systematic way, either at home (with a real organized and thorough approach) or by sending them to CCD/Religious education. And this obligation doesn't end after 8th grade: we have a great high school CCD program.

So: **SIGN YOUR KIDS UP FOR CCD NOW!!!** Please. You can call or email the office, or you can register online on our website.

And also—we can't teach if we have no teachers!! **We are in urgent need of several catechists and aides.** With all the problems in the world, I hear people ask, "What can we do?" Simple answer: "Teach CCD." Teach CCD: you will never regret it.

Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles

MASS INTENTIONS**Monday, Aug 17th**

6:30 am Monica Stabile +
 8:30 am Elizabeth Brisson +
 7:00 pm RCIA Mass
 For Those coming into the Church

Tuesday, Aug 18th

8:30 am Maeve Diane Zaloumis

Wednesday, Aug 19th

6:30 am Carl Hautzinger +
 8:30 am Barbara De Celles +

Thursday, Aug. 20th

8:30 am Bernadette Porras +

Friday, Aug. 21st

6:30 am Maria Marcela Reynoso
 8:30 am Elizabeth Brisson +
 7:00 pm EFM (Latin)

Masses to be said Privately

Aug 18 Teresa Marzano +
 Aug. 19 Fr. John De Celles
 Aug. 20 Frederico Hontiveros +
 Aug. 23 Carol Frazza +

Saturday, Aug. 22nd

9:00 am Tom Delaney

Vigil Mass

5:00 pm
 Julia Agbevanu Quashie +

Sunday, Aug. 23rd

7:00 am
 Bev & Buz Buczacki
 9:00 am
 Parishioners
 11:00 am
 Fr. Charles Smith
 1:00 pm
 Rose Marie Tougas +

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. **Also, please be sure to let us know when they return home.**

Anthony Nsekela

Please pray for the sick of our parish

Glenn Bliss Tom Dietz Michael O'Neill Cindy Laird Christine B Petitti Patricia Lewis Barbara McGinn Mai Pham Joan Opiela Donald Zacherl Leonora Ramos	Jason Saenz Phyllis Zitnik Mary K Randazzo Patricia Del Buono Joann Alba Michael Malachowski Juanita Boarman Angela Colom John Florio Debra Henkel	Daniel Moore Maria Daugherty Howie DeWolf Lauren Hornsby Gaudencio Dizon Antoinette Baptist Carol Snively Chris Quan Minerva Barnhart Ellen Trayer Eugene Bettwy
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Public Masses

Weekday Masses will be :

8:30 am Monday thru Friday
6:30 am Monday, Wednesday and Friday
9:00 am Saturday

Sunday Masses will be:

Saturday Vigil at **5:00 pm**
 Sunday at **7:00 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, & 1:00 pm**
(There will not be a 5:00 pm Sunday Mass at this time)

Face Masks will be expected at all Masses.

Sign ups are required for 9am and 11 am Sunday Masses.
Contact the parish office.

View livestreaming of the Holy Mass at St. Raymond's!

<https://straymonds.org/view-mass-online/>

Monday through Friday Daily Mass at 8:30 am

Saturday at 9:00 am

SUNDAY MASS at 11:00 am

Confessions in the Church

(in the flower room)

Wednesday: 6:15 pm - 7:00 pm

Saturday: 8:30 am - 9:00 am; and 3:00 pm - 4:45 pm

(No Sunday Confessions at this time.)

Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesdays: 9:00 am - 7:00 pm

Fridays: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

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 to verify your email address.

Volunteer teachers/catechists, assistant teachers and aides

(high school students) are needed for the 2020-2021 Religious Education year. If you would like to help, please fill out a gray Volunteer Registration form which can be found in the Narthex of the church, at the Groveland entrance, in the Parish Office or outside the Religious Education Office. You may also find it on our website at: straymonds.org/religious-education/volunteer-registration-form/. Please complete and return the form to the Religious Education Office.

Celebrating A Silver or Golden Wedding Anniversary This Year?

Were you married in 1970 or 1995? Then join Bishop Michael F. Burbidge for the 2020 Mass for Jubilarians to be celebrated on Sunday, October 4th at 2:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Arlington, VA. Contact the parish office to **register no later than September 18th**. For more info, visit www.arlingtondiocese.org/MJM.

Altar Rail Project Update: At last word, the ship (and marble) had arrived in the Bahamas! At press time, we don't have the timing of the ship's departure from Freeport or its arrival in Baltimore, but we're getting closer...

Blood Drive: The Knights of Columbus are co-sponsoring a blood drive on behalf of Inova Blood Donor Services at Nativity Parish on Saturday August 22, 2020 from 7:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Please consider signing up for a 15 minute time slot within that period and giving the "Gift of Life." You may sign up on line at www.inovabloodsaves.org. If you have any questions or difficulty signing up, please contact Mark Maslyn of our parish at 703- 690-7285 or by email at mam7253@msn.com.

Annual Back to School Sock & Underwear Drive: The St. Martin de Porres Committee is again sponsoring a "Back to School" drive for low income families in the Springfield area. We will be accepting donations of NEW Socks & Underwear for school aged children (age 7-14) on the weekends of Aug 22-23 and Aug. 29-30. For health code reasons, we can only accept NEW items. A collection box will be in the Narthex. Items requested are:

Boys: Socks, Undershirts, Briefs & Boxers

Girls: Socks, Tights, Undershirts, Camisoles & Briefs

Thank you for your continued support!

GOSPEL MT 15:21-28

At that time, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon.
And behold, a Canaanite woman of that district came and called out,
“Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David!
My daughter is tormented by a demon.”
But Jesus did not say a word in answer to her.
Jesus’ disciples came and asked Him,
“Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us.”
He said in reply,
“I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”
But the woman came and did Jesus homage, saying, “Lord, help me.”
He said in reply,
“It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs.”
She said, “Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters.”
Then Jesus said to her in reply,
“O woman, great is your faith!
Let it be done for you as you wish.”
And the woman’s daughter was healed from that hour.

St. Martin de Porres Committee - collects food on an ongoing basis for the Springfield Resource Center which services over 250 families in the Springfield area. A collection box is in the Narthex and donations are collected and distributed weekly. Suggested food items are listed, but any non-perishable food donations are welcome. For equitable distribution, smaller packaging is requested (i.e. 1 lb bags of rice vs. 5 lb. bags, 1 qt. oil vs. 1 gal oil). **During this crisis the need for food is greater than ever. Please be generous. We can only accept non-perishable food items.**

Family of Jesus Prayer Group: Though our weekly meetings are currently canceled - we are still praying! If you have any prayer requests, please let us know by emailing Elaine Perricone at jpebtp@verizon.net or by calling the parish office at 703-440-0535.

HOPE POST ABORTION HEALING RETREAT FOR WOMEN: An Entering Canaan Day of Prayer & Healing for women who have experienced abortion will be held on **Saturday October 17, 2020**. Come. Begin your healing journey. Experience God’s hope and mercy. You are not alone. There is hope. There is healing. For more information and confidential registration, please contact Project Rachel Ministry at 888-456-HOPE(4673) or info@helpafterabortion.org.

Registration for Christendom Graduate School’s Fall semester, which runs Sept. 8 through Dec. 19 is open! Courses are offered on campus in Alexandria & are also available online in both live & prerecorded formats. This Fall students will explore topics in Sacred Scripture, Trinitarian Theology, Church History, and more! Courses may be taken for credit toward a Master’s degree or certificate. Casual students and auditors are also welcome. There is a special discount audit rate for catechists, seniors and religious. For details, please visit our website <https://graduate.christendom.edu> or contact the office at 703-658-4304 or graduate@christendom.edu. The Notre Dame Graduate School of Christendom College has been forming the faithful for more than 50 years. Join today!

SAINT RAYMOND’S RESPECTS LIFE

*Learn the TRUTH. Live the TRUTH.
Spread the TRUTH... in LOVE*

MaRiH Pregnancy Care Center Thanks YOU!
Again! Our next support weekend is September 12/13. God bless you all for your continued generosity.

Natural Family Planning. A gift to your marriage. For more info visit: celi.org

Vaccines are in the news as one way for scientists to strive to find relief from the COVID19 virus. Many vaccines presently in use for various diseases have been derived from aborted fetal cell lines. Catholics should educate themselves on the pertinent concerns that fact presents. The National Catholic Bioethics Center can answer many questions. <https://www.ncbcenter.org/resources/> Visit cogforlife.org for current information regarding ethical vaccines. Please consult the parish website for more detailed information.



September 23 – November 1.
Stay tuned for details

Our Own Pro Life Ambassador!

Fellow parishioner **Victoria Bliss** spent a phenomenal summer as a missionary with Created Equal working to change hearts and minds in our culture and share the Gospel. She has been trained by national pro-life leaders in apologetics, debate, the history of abortion related laws, sidewalk counseling, public communication, and so much more!



Victoria says, “*I have grown tremendously in my faith working alongside passionate believers who are all striving to grow in virtue and display Christ’s love and mercy to everyone we meet. Though this work is emotionally draining and incredibly challenging, I am so very grateful for this opportunity. God is working in us and through us, and it is fulfilling despite its hardships. I am learning SO much every day, and being challenged out of my comfort zone - often. My cup is so full! Praise God!*”

I am seriously considering continuing this work full-time this fall. I would greatly appreciate prayer as I finalize this decision. Knowing that thousands of innocent babies are being brutally murdered every day in our country, and learning more every day about how bad it is and how broken our culture is, I cannot sit back and do anything else. We must fight against this evil injustice!”

Has the sorrow of miscarriage or still birth touched your life? Or perhaps you know someone in this situation? **A Mom’s Peace**, A Lay Apostolate for Mothers of Miscarried and Stillborn Souls offers discreet support to families with bereavement, burial and remembrance assistance. For more information visit amomspeace.org

St. Raymond's Youth Apostolate

Steubenville High School Youth Conference!



Limited **FREE** Streaming for teens & families available **until Aug. 18th**

While all of the in-person Steubenville High School Youth conferences were canceled this summer, Franciscan University did put together a live-streamed virtual Youth Conference, which was broadcast from Orlando, FL. The University is currently offering our parish a limited number of FREE "registrations" to access this conference in its entirety online until August 18th. **If you have ever wondered what a Steubenville High School Youth Conference is like, there is no better opportunity to check it out! Email Jeanne for the link to register for your free access.** Access includes all of the sessions (music and games too) from Friday night through Sunday Mass. Ministry Team: Fr. Mike Schmitz, Brian Kissinger, Chris Padgett, Josh Blakesley, Mary Bielski, Michael Gormley, Oscar Rivera Jr.

St. Raymond the Surfing Friar!

COVID-19 has allowed for some incredible talent to shine here at St. Raymond's! 14 of our teens have been busy putting together an amazing little film about St. Raymond the Surfing Friar! **Watch the movie at:** <https://safeYouTube.net/w/svSP>



Jeanne Sause

Director of the Youth Apostolate (Grades 7-12)
youth@straymonds.org Call/Text: 571-334-9890
<https://straymonds.org/ministries-and-groups/youth-apostolate/>

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

If it is your intent to register your child for CCD classes, please do so immediately. It is necessary that we know how many children to expect so we can organize classes to meet **social distancing requirements in the classrooms**. **Some classes are already full and others are nearly full!**

You can register online at: <https://straymonds.org/religious-education/registration-3/> or pick up a bright orange registration form and return it to the Religious Education Office.

Please note: We have classes for high school students on Sunday (6:30-8 p.m.), and there is no fee to participate in the high school program.

Attention 2020-2021 home school parents: if you have a child in a sacramental preparation year (grades 2, 7-8) **it is necessary to register the child with the Religious Education Office** in order to receive information regarding the sacrament they are preparing to receive.

2020-2021 Religious Education volunteers needed: If you love Christ and His Church and want to pass the truths of our awesome Catholic faith to the young people of St. Raymond's, please pick up and complete a gray volunteer registration form. We are in need of the following:

SUNDAY (6:30 - 8:00 p.m.)

Grade 9 Teacher (Advanced degree in Philosophy or Theology required)

MONDAY (4:45-6:15 p.m.)

Grade 1 Assistant Teacher
 Grade 2 Teacher
 Assistant Teacher
 Grade 6 Assistant Teacher
 Grade 8 Teacher

TUESDAY (6-7:30 p.m.)

Grade 1 Teacher
 Grade 2 Teacher
 Grade 5 Assistant Teacher
 Grade 7 Assistant Teacher
 Grade 8 teacher
 RCIC Teacher

PLEASE NOTE: If we are unable to fill teacher and/or assistant teacher vacancies, we will cancel the class and move the students to another day.

Please mark your calendars: PARENT MEETINGS are scheduled to take place the week of September 27th while CCD classes are in session. Please make plans to attend one of the three meetings.

Home School Group: for more information visit our website www.homeschool-life.com/va/straymondhsg/ Contact: Katherine Bogacki or Malia Cameron at straymondhsg@gmail.com.

Church Persecuted

The Pauline Book and Media Center are located in Alexandria VA and also in downtown Chicago along the Miracle Mile. Sr. Tracey Dugas, FSP, reported that during the Chicago riots in June, the book store was extensively vandalized, but fortunately not set afire and the chapel not desecrated. FYI, the sisters were living in the upper floors of the store and were home during these riots.

Last Sunday the rioters returned to the Miracle Mile. Sr. Tracey reported that the rioters themselves did not damage anything within one block of their store, but around the corner from the store, they were driving by shooting at the police.

How did the sisters respond to the first attack? They reopened the store by mid June. They also rolled out a movie night down the street at Soldier's Field parking lot showing the movie *Fatima* (#FatimaTheMovie).

As we went to press, we have been assured the sisters (and the Blessed Sacrament) are safe. There is a line in the film, "I've never seen Our Lady with a sword, yet she is always destroying a serpent. Her strength is in her identity. Her 'yes' to the Lord is why the enemy is defeated." Let us keep the sisters in our prayers as they deal with the rioting in Chicago.

Links to these and other articles can be found at <https://straymonds.org/religious-liberty-blog/>. Check often during the week for updates.



St. John Bosco Council #12846 Knights of Columbus:

Are you a man of 17½ years or more?

Are you a practicing Catholic? Do you want to help

others and preach the Gospel by your life? Then we invite you to join the Knights! Contact Deputy Grand Knight Stephen Delaney (703-627-8090) or go to www.KofC.org/JoinUs to become a Knight today!

FORMED®

Get In-Formed!

Clare and Francis - This epic feature film on the lives of St. Clare and St. Francis of Assisi was shot on location in Italy by the Italian film company Lux Vide, the producers of Saint Rita, Pope John Paul II, and St. John Bosco. This outstanding movie is unique among films about St. Francis because of the historical accuracy of the story and its authentic spirit of joy and piety so characteristic of Francis, as well as the major role played by Clare, who is given equal stature with him. The two leads give genuinely inspiring and beautifully moving performances of the daughter of a patrician family and the son of a rich merchant who leave everything to follow Christ.

Ver en Espanol Tambien - Clara y Francisco

Watch now at www.straymonds.formed.org

The best Catholic content in one place - movies, programs, talks, dramas, & ebooks—just one click away!

Questions? Need help? Email us at: formed@straymonds.org



Angelus Academy

Pre K—8th

Offering a liberal arts education in the classical tradition.

2020-21 Admissions are ongoing: Tuition assistance is available for all parishioners. Share the treasures of a solid Catholic education with your child(ren)/grandchild(ren).

Looking for a gentle introduction to school for your 3-5 year old? Our Little Messengers program (MWF mornings) includes Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (Atrium) sessions.

www.AngelusAcademy.org

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

Wednesday and Friday Adoration at St. Raymond's:

Would you like to spend an hour in silent prayer and reflection with our Lord during weekly exposition of the Blessed Sacrament? We are in immediate need of permanent adorers for Wednesday and Friday Adoration. ON WEDNESDAYS, 1 adorer is needed for the 10-11 am hour. ON FRIDAYS in particular 1 adorer is needed for the 10-11 am, 11 am-12noon and 2-3 pm hours. If you are interested in Wednesdays, please call Leslie Schratz at 703-569-1940 or email to spoiledk9s@verizon.net. If you are interested in Fridays, please call Virginia Osella at 703-440-0535 or email to Virginia.osella@straymonds.org. And we can always use substitute adorers!

FAITH DIRECT: Although public Masses are limited, Religious Education, Bible Study, Youth Apostolate events and other parish events have been canceled, **our parish is still in need of your donations.** We have operating costs (utility, maintenance, service contracts, supplies and staff payroll and benefits) that must continue. Now more than ever we have requests for FAMILY ASSISTANCE to support those members of our parish who are in need of our help. Please visit our website www.straymonds.org to join online or call directly at 866-507-8757.

Please remember that our parish's expenses continue during this crisis! Your donations may be mailed, dropped off at the parish office, or given online through Faith Direct.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Sunday Offertory	\$ 13,936.50
Family Assistance	\$ 1,558.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 1,557.00

The Weekend of Aug 22/23 we will take up a second collection that supports the annual Mission Cooperative Plan Appeal for our diocese.