

Pastor's Corner

Supreme Court. Last Friday Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg died at the age of 87. Justice Ginsburg dedicated much of her life in service to our country, and for that she is rightly honored. She is clearly an important figure in our nation's history. Moreover, she was a strong advocate for civil discourse and debate, and abhorred the violence we see in our streets today.

Unfortunately, many of her judicial rulings were diametrically opposed to Catholic moral thought, and contrary to the intentions of our Founding Fathers and most of our American ancestors.

This, of course, includes, but is not limited to her positions on same-sex "marriage," freedom of religion, and most especially, abortion. One could not find a more strident and dedicated advocate for the right to kill unborn babies.

But following the Lord's commands, in charity we pray for her soul, asking Him to judge her with His omnipotent mercy, and grant her peace.

And our President will now choose her successor. He has promised to appoint a woman who is pro-life and pro-traditional American values. Of course, the left is going nuts; for them abortion is something akin to a sacrament, absolute dogma, the sine qua non of their ideology. They cannot believe that their control of the Court will swing from a pro-abortion 5 to 4 majority to a pro-life majority of 6 to 3 in just over 2 years.

So it will be an ugly fight for the nomination and the Senate's approval. And so we must pray fervently for the new nominee, pray like the lives of millions of babies depend on it.

Because of the printing deadline, I write this on Wednesday—before the President's Saturday scheduled announcement of the nominee. I'm guessing it will be Judge Amy Barrett. But as you read this you know who it is. Whoever it is, God bless her, shower His graces on her, and send His Holy Angels to protect her.

Heart of a Lion. Five years ago our parish was blessed with the presence of, and talk by **Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone of San Francisco**. Today we congratulate His Excellency for his courageous stand against the radical leftist-secularist city politicians trying to ignore and perhaps even intentionally harm the spiritual well-being of their citizens. In a homily preached last Sunday he defended the spiritual necessity and Constitutional right of being able to attend Mass, something all our leaders should pay attention to. But he also spoke loudly on the state of the Church in America—and the left's utter contempt for our needs and rights, which redounds loudly in our political culture and in the coming election. As the Archbishop wrote, in part:

"....Months ago, we submitted a safety plan to the city including masks and social distancing, just like indoor retail stores did. The city said "yes" to indoor retail but we Catholics are still waiting to hear back. The city continues to place unrealistic and suffocating restrictions on our natural and constitutional right to worship. This willful discrimination is affecting us all. Yes, discrimination, because there is no other word for it. We ask: Why can people shop at Nordstrom's at 25 percent capacity but only one of you at a time is allowed to pray inside of this great cathedral, your cathedral? Is this equality? No, there is no reason for this new rule except a desire to put Catholics—to put you—at the back of the line.

"For months I have pleaded with the city on your behalf, advocating for your need of the consolation of the Mass, and the consolation you derive from the practice of your faith and connection with your faith community. City Hall ignored us. City Hall ignored you. They didn't deny it, but they simply ignored you. It has become clear to me that they just don't care about you. To them you are nothing, to them you don't matter. Let me repeat that: to City Hall, you don't matter.

"One person at a time in this great cathedral to pray? What an insult. This is a mockery. They are mocking you, and even worse, they are mocking God. To City Hall, you don't matter.

"But maybe that itself doesn't matter. It doesn't matter because, to me, you do matter. Yes, to me you do matter very much. I am here because you matter to me, and because I love you. We are here together because we love God, and love one another as brothers and sisters in Christ. God created us to know, love, and serve him in this life, so we can be happy with him forever; so, we know that when God is rejected by society, it only brings misery and despair.

"Just look around our city. What has happened to our beloved city? San Francisco was once known as a place of great beauty and hospitality, a world-class city of great culture, the first home of the United Nations, whose very name conjured up images of "little cable cars [that] climb halfway to the stars." Now what images come to mind when people think of San Francisco? Look around the city and see: rampant homelessness and sprawling tent cities, drug dealing and shooting up in broad daylight, human feces on the streets. What has happened to our beloved city?

"All of this is happening, and we Catholics are at the end of the line, because our city has abandoned God. Our blessed Lord is openly mocked to the gleeful grins of the cultural elites. The sacred symbol of the religious habit is blasphemed with the glowing approval of those who profess mutual respect and tolerance for others who are different, while they openly discriminate against us.

"This, my dear brothers and sisters, is godlessness, sheer godlessness. What do we people of faith do when faced with sheer godlessness? We go to the back of the line. But please don't misunderstand me. I don't mean that we should accept injustice. We have been patiently putting up with unjust treatment long enough, and now it is time to come together to witness to our faith and to the primacy of God, and tell City Hall: No More!

"What I mean by going to the back of the line is that all we do must be for God's glory, not our own. ...No, as the prophet Isaiah tells us, we must act according to God's thoughts and God's ways, that are as high above our own as the heavens are above the earth; we must not use worldly means simply to fight to get our own way. In fighting for justice, we fight for the glory of God.

"But to persevere, we must be spiritually grounded....Our spiritual grounding will elevate us to move in God's ways and think with God's thoughts. May God grant us this grace, for his glory and for the healing of our city, of our country, and of the entire world."

Note: see today's Church Persecuted section for another recent brave article by the Archbishop.

Oremus pro invicem, et pro patria. Fr. De Celles

MASS INTENTIONS**Modified Mass Schedule****Monday, Sept. 28th**

8:30 am Sam Roberts

Tuesday, Sept. 29th8:30 am Herman & Nelida
Brouillette +**Wednesday, Sept. 30th**

8:30 am Elizabeth Brisson +

Thursday, Oct. 1st

8:30 am In Thanksgiving

Friday, Oct 2nd8:30 am James Drouillard
7:00 pm EFM (Latin)**Masses to be said Privately**

Sept 28 Steve Schweitzer

Sept 29 Juliana Agbevanu
Quashie+

Sept 30 Joy Hickey

Sept 30 Ellen Dila

Oct. 1 Therese Nguyen

Oct. 2 Lynn Kline

Oct. 4 Geoffrey Bald +

Saturday, Oct. 3rd

9:00 am Otis Shealy +

Vigil Mass5:00 pm Fr. Rippy
Jackie & Dennis Kruse**Sunday, Oct. 4th**7:00 am Fr. Willard
Timothy F. Shook +9:00 am Fr. Rippy
Parishioners11:00 am Fr. Willard
Joe & Laura Schweitzer1:00 pm Fr. Daly
Philip Burns +

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

Brandon Skiba

Please pray for the sick of our parishGlenn Bliss
Tom Dietz
Michael O'Neill
Cindy Laird
Christine B
Petitti
Patricia Lewis
Barbara McGinn
Mai Pham
Joan Opiela
Donald ZacherlLeonora Ramos
Jason Saenz
Phyllis Zitnik
Mary K. Randazzo
Patricia Del Buono
Joann Alba
Michael
Malachowski
Juanita Boarman
Angela Colom
John FlorioDebra Henkel
Daniel Moore
Maria Daugherty
Lauren Hornsby
Gaudencio Dizon
Antoinette Baptist
Chris Quan
Quentin Hoffman
Christine Gloninger
Brenda Starr**Public Masses****Modified Weekday Masses will be:**

No 6:30 am Mass this week.

8:30 am Monday thru Friday

9:00 am Saturday

(No morning confessions on Sat. Oct. 3rd)

Sunday Masses will be:

Saturday Vigil at 5:00 pm

Sunday at 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, & 1:00 pm

(No 5:00 pm Sunday Mass at this time)

Extraordinary Form of Mass (Traditional Latin)

1st & 3rd Fridays at 7:00 pm

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 morning confessions on Sat. Oct. 3rd)

(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.

Religious Freedom Special Speakers Series - Dr. Robert Royal is giving a talk at Saint Raymond's on Saturday October 10th entitled "The New Marxism and Anti-Christian Socialism" after the 9 am Mass. Please visit our website for more information and to register.

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.

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.

Altar Rail Project Update: The marble has arrived in Miami! We still do not know yet when the marble will arrive at arrive at St. Raymond's, but hopefully soon...

VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE: St Raymond's will host a Voter Registration Drive after Masses the weekends of September 26-27 and October 3-4 in the Narthex. The registration deadline is **October 13**, so do not delay! The safest way to vote absentee is in-person at one of the many satellite locations. No mail is involved and you can even vote curbside and not enter the building. Information will be available at the table or on <https://straymonds.org>.

Increased Access to Parish Library. Patrons may access the Parish Library for a private, in-person visit by contacting the parish office for an appointment. Alternatively, patrons may contact Mary Hansen at straylibrarian@gmail.com for an electronic catalog inquiry and/or check-out request. She will leave your materials with the Parish Office for easy pickup during regular business hours. "You will not find anyone who is truly striving after his spiritual advancement who is not given to spiritual reading." - St Athanasius

GOSPEL MT 21:28-32

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people:
"What is your opinion?
A man had two sons.
He came to the first and said,
'Son, go out and work in the vineyard today.'
He said in reply, 'I will not,'
but afterwards changed his mind and went.
The man came to the other son and gave the same
order.
He said in reply, 'Yes, sir, 'but did not go.
Which of the two did his father's will?"
They answered, "The first."
Jesus said to them, "Amen, I say to you,
tax collectors and prostitutes
are entering the kingdom of God before you.
When John came to you in the way of righteousness,
you did not believe him;
but tax collectors and prostitutes did.
Yet even when you saw that,
you did not later change your minds and believe him."

FOOD DRIVE for ECHO: Saturday, Oct. 17th from 10 am until 2 pm in the Church Parking Lot. ECHO (Ecumenical Community Helping Others) is in urgent need of nonperishable food and personal items for those in need in the Springfield/Burke communities. Because of the current pandemic, ECHO is distributing more food than ever before. As a member congregation of ECHO, we will be sponsoring a food drive to help replenish the ECHO food room. Please bring donations in the back of your car, drive up to the delivery area, and volunteers will take donations from the car. Please wear masks - safety first for everyone! For more information about ECHO, and the current needs, please visit the website: echo-inc.org, or call Kathy Siner at 703-405-8164. Thanks for helping those in need in our community!

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. They are neither theologians, philosophers, nor great scholars. Just some guys, coming together to pray, read, and share a simple breakfast. Everyone is welcome. Please join us at 7:30 am next Saturday. For more information, call Dave Wilson, 703-966-5327.

Adult Formation Opportunities:

2020-2021 RCIA/Catholic update - St. Raymond's will offer RCIA classes on **Monday evenings from 7:30 to 8:30 pm** via Zoom from **September 14, 2020 until March 29, 2021** (except for holidays). Those seeking information to understand and/or to **enter the Catholic Church**, and baptized Catholics seeking **additional sacraments** are welcome. To register for the course please contact Bob Ward at (703) 644-5873 or via email at biblestudy@straymonds.org.

2020-2021 Adult Bible Study: St. Raymond's will offer a Bible Study every Tuesday from **September 15, 2020 until May 11, 2021** focusing on an overview of the **New Testament**. It will take place every **Tuesday** (except for holidays) from **9:30 to 10:30 am** and again from **7:30 to 8:30 pm** via Zoom. **The classes will be recorded and posted on the parish website.** For further information please contact Bob Ward at (703) 644-5873 or via email at biblestudy@straymonds.org.

SAINT RAYMOND'S RESPECTS LIFE

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

MaRiH Pregnancy Care Center
Our next collection weekend is 3-4 October. God bless you all for your continued generosity.

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

Tepeyac Pro Life OB/GYN: Transforming Hearts Through Healthcare. Tepeyacobgyn.com 703-273-9440. Thank you for your referrals and your support.

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.

Life Chain. NEXT SUNDAY AFTERNOON!! October 4th from 2:30-3:30 along Franconia Road across from Key Middle School. Life Chain is a nationwide peaceful, prayerful and mostly silent witness. Signs (non-graphic) will be made available in the front of the key Middle School Parking lot (as usual). Bring your friends and family!

College Scholarship Available:
Visit 40daysforlife.com/scholarship



Fall Campaign Prayer Vigil Outside Falls Church 'Healthcare' Center
900 S Washington St, Falls Church

Our witness weekend will be Oct 31 / Nov 1 as well as every Friday during the campaign from 10am - noon. See the parish website for Sign Up Genius – or the Constant Contact you received via email.

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

To those who have suffered an abortion Project Rachel can help someone who is carrying the grief and sorrow of a past abortion. (888)456-HOPE. Confidentiality always respected. www.helpafterabortion.org

Give a Gift for Life! Gabriel Project helps pregnant moms welcome their babies. Please consider donating at www.arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife. For more info, contact them at 1-866-444-3553 or GabrielProject@arlingtondiocese.org

St. Raymond's Youth Apostolate

Youth Apostolate Participation: 2 REQUIRED Forms
2020-2021 YA Info. Sheet is to be completed annually for every child *prior* participating in any Youth Apostolate function on or off site.

Youth Ministry Participant Waiver, a one-time form is to be signed and turned in for every youth *prior* to participating in any St. Raymond's Youth Ministry activity/event on or off site.

- This is a separate form from that required for CCD.
- Only one form per family is required, listing ALL of the children who participate in ANY of the activities covered by that form (e.g., AHG, Trail Life, and Altar Servers, among others, are all covered by the Youth Ministry Waiver).

Forms can be found online at <http://bit.ly/YAforms> and should be emailed to Jeanne at youth@straymonds.org or turned in to the main office.

Sunday Night CCD began Sept. 13th
Sunday Night High School Youth Group begins
October 4th (8-9pm)

VOLUNTEERS, especially YOUNG ADULTS...
Our Youth Apostolate Needs YOU!

We are in need of volunteers for the following:

In-Person High School Youth Group

- Time Commitment: 7:45-9:15pm most Sunday Nights
- Volunteers (age 20+) to hang out with, journey alongside and share your love of Jesus with our teens **in person**.

In-Person Junior High (7th & 8th grade) Youth Group

- Meeting Dates/Times TBD
- Volunteers (ages 18+) willing to help out with our **in person** junior high youth group.

Virtual Junior High and/or High School Youth Group

- Meeting Dates/Times TBD
- Volunteers to participate in zoom meetings if/when we have them for, both junior high and high school meetings.

Please pray about these opportunities.

Our teens, perhaps more than any of us, are in great need of the ability to meet with one another, especially during these times of so much isolation. The only way to make this happen is through having enough committed volunteers. Is the Holy Spirit nudging you?

"A second time he said to him, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?"

He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you."

He said to him, "Tend my sheep."

~John 21:16

Interested in volunteering?

Email Jeanne with what you are interested in helping with and/or with any questions you may have.

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

Classes for the 2020-2021 Religious Education (CCD) year began on September 13th: Please register your child (K-12) if you have not already done so.

ALL STUDENTS SHOULD REPORT TO THE CHURCH FOR CCD CLASS

Please enter through the Front Door.

When you enter the church, make your way to the adult who is holding the sign with your grade level written on it. Parents of younger children may walk their child to the teacher.

PLEASE BE SURE TO ARRIVE A FEW MINUTES BEFORE THE SESSION IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN, SO EVERYONE CAN BE SEATED AND WE CAN START ON TIME!! The schedule for on site classes is:

Sunday 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Monday 4:45-6:15 p.m.

Tuesday 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Special Event coming up: The annual Parish Holy Hour and Rosary is scheduled for **Thursday October 15th at 6:45 p.m. in the church.** Please be sure to sign up by Friday 10/2 if you plan to attend. This is a good opportunity for 7th and 8th grade students to earn two Prayer Service Hours!!

Parents of Home School and Catholic school children in grades 2, 7 and/or 8 : You need to register your child with the Religious Education Office in order to receive information regarding the sacrament which your child is preparing to receive.

Planning ahead: There will be no CCD classes on October 11, 12 or 13 in observance of the Columbus Day holiday

REMINDER to Parents of students in grades 2, 7, or/and 8: Be sure to attend the **Sacramental information meeting** for which you signed up - either tomorrow (9/28) at 5 p.m. OR Tuesday (9/29) at 6:15 p.m. The meetings will take place in the Parish Hall.



St. John Bosco Council #12846 Knights of Columbus:

Are you a man of 17 ½ years of 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!

St. Raymond's has Adoration every Wednesday and Friday!

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 adorers for Wednesday (9 am to 7 pm) and Friday (9 am to 3 pm). If you are interested in Wednesdays, please call Leslie Schratz at 703-569-1940 or email spoiledk9s@verizon.net. If you are interested in Fridays, please call Virginia Osella at 703-440-0535 or email virginia.osella@straymonds.org. Drop ins are always welcome!

Church Persecuted

The follow is the beginning of an Op-Ed by Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone in the Washington Post 9/16/2020

"I never expected that the most basic religious freedom, the right to worship — protected so robustly in our Constitution's First Amendment — would be unjustly repressed by an American government.

"But that is exactly what is happening in San Francisco. For months now, the city has limited worship services to just 12 people outdoors. Worship inside our own churches is banned. The city recently announced it will now allow 50 for outdoor worship, with a goal of permitting indoor services up to a maximum of 25 people by Oct. 1 — less than 1 percent of the capacity of San Francisco's St. Mary's Cathedral.

"This is not nearly enough to accommodate the hundreds of thousands of Catholics in San Francisco. In imposing these restrictions, the city is turning a great many faithful away from their houses of prayer.

"People can freely go to parks here, as long as they stay six feet apart. If they follow proper social distancing and wear masks, people can eat on an outdoor patio with no hard numerical limit. Indoor shopping malls are already open at 25 percent capacity. Catholics in San Francisco are increasingly noticing the simple unfairness. As one of my parishioners asked recently, 'Why can I spend three hours indoors shopping for shoes at Nordstrom's but can't go to Mass?'"

(see <https://straymonds.org/religious-liberty-blog/> for entire op-ed)

Men's Retreat: Gentlemen: The civil turmoil and political division in our country presents a major spiritual challenge to all of us. What is being asked of faithful Catholic men in this time of trial? **The 22nd Annual Christ the King Men's Day of Recollection, directed by The Very Reverend Paul D. Scalia,** will be held on **Sat. Oct. 24 from 9:15am-1:15pm** at St. Raymond of Peñafort Catholic Church. There is no charge for this event, **but you must register before Oct. 20 to attend. Attendance is limited. To register go to** www.waywomen.com/mensretreat For more information, contact Robin Maas at rmv1maas@gmail.com.

FORMED®

Get In-Formed!

Lead Kindly Light: The Life and Message of Blessed John Henry Newman – An influential teacher, a distinguished theologian, a man who endured many trials, a father of souls—Blessed John Henry Newman (1801 - 1890) remains as fresh and relevant today as he was during his lifetime. In this engaging film, Fr. Nicholas Schofield and Fr. Marcus Holden, hosts of several other Ignatius films, present the inspiring story of Newman's life and visit the places in England where he lived and worked. From London to Oxford, from Littlemore to Birmingham, each revealing an important stage of Newman's life. Along the way they explore his writings and teachings, his pastoral zeal for his students and parishioners, his journey of conversion to the Catholic faith, and his enduring message for Christians of today.

Watch now at www.straymonds.formed.org

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



Angelus Academy

Pre K—8th

Offering a liberal arts education in the classical tradition.

We are thrilled to be offering in-person instruction, 5 days a week!

2020-21 Admissions: Tuition assistance is available for all parishioners. Share the treasures of a solid Catholic education with your child(ren)/grandchild(ren). Visit "Admissions" on our website for our application and more information.

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).

Thank you for your prayers and support. With God, nothing will be impossible!

www.AngelusAcademy.org

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

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.

FAITH DIRECT: Although public Masses are limited and many 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 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	\$ 12,214.00
Family Assistance	\$ 369.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 1,408.00

The second collection next week is for Porto Charities "Special Kids, Special Needs" This collection helps provide the resources needed for the children within our diocese who are intellectually or developmentally challenged. Please be generous.