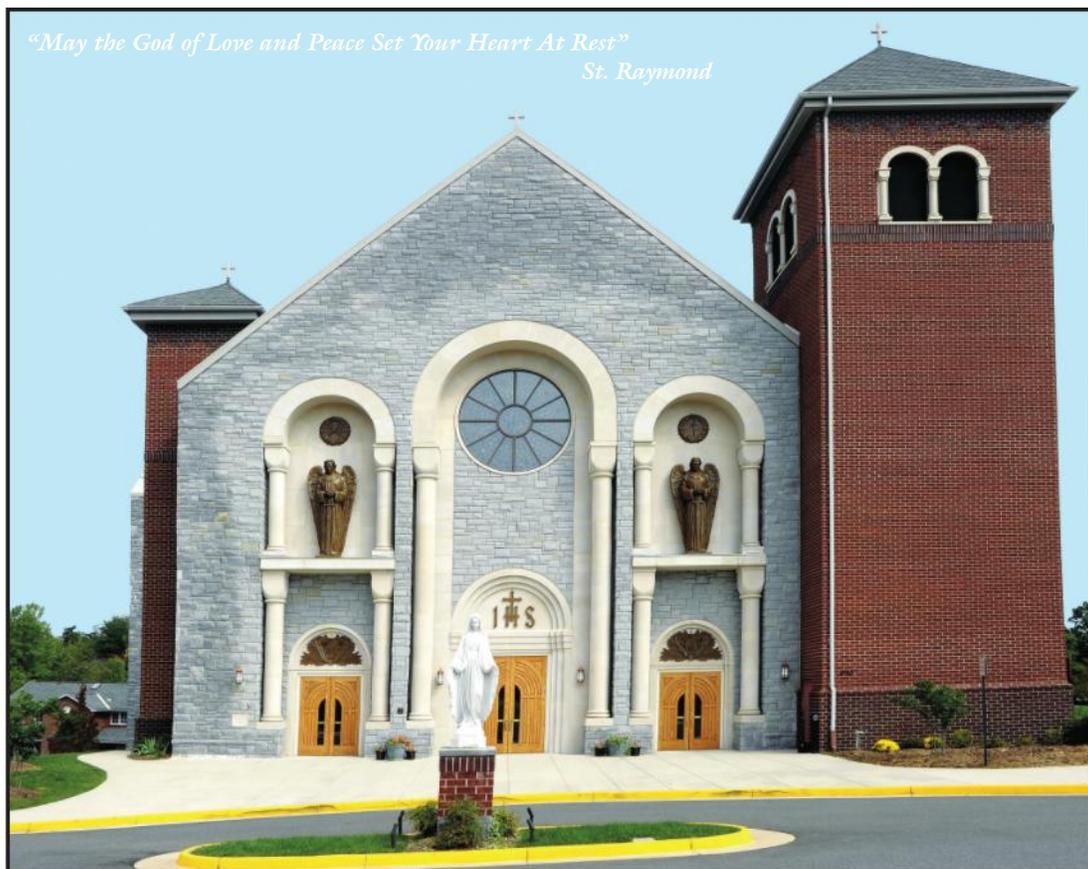


"May the God of Love and Peace Set Your Heart At Rest"
St. Raymond



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, 8:45 am,
10:30 am and 12:15 pm &
5:00 pm

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday through Friday:
6:30 am, 8:00 am
Wednesdays 7:00 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am

**EXTRAORDINARY
FORM MASS (LATIN)**
1st and 3rd Fridays 7:00 pm

Rev. John C. De Celles, Pastor
Rev. Jordan M. Willard, Parochial Vicar
Elisabeth Turco, Director of Liturgical Music
Jeanne Sause, Director of Youth Apostolate
Mary Salmon, Director of Religious Education
Vince Drouillard, Religious Education Secretary
Tom Browne, Plant Manager
Kirsti Tyson, Office Manager
Mary Butler, Secretary
Eva Radel, 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

E-Mail

Church: Office@straymonds.org
Rel. Ed.: ReligiousEducation@straymonds.org
Choirs: Music@straymonds.org

Website

www.straymonds.org

TUITION ASSISTANCE: Please inquire with our office about the availability of partial scholarships for the children of active St. Raymond parishioners attending local Catholic grade schools and high schools.

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

6:15-6:50 p.m. (during Exposition); After 7 p.m. Mass

Saturday Morning

8:30 - 8:50 a.m.; After 9 a.m. Mass

Saturday Afternoon

3:30 - 5 p.m.

Sunday Morning

8:15 - 8:45 a.m.; 10:00 - 10:30 a.m.; 11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Wednesday from 8:30 am to 7:00 pm

Friday from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

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. There will be a maximum of 4 Baptisms on any given Sunday. Please schedule early!

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Please submit announcements in writing 10 days prior to publication.

Pastor's Corner

Happy Easter. Today we celebrate the 8th day of the Octave of Easter, or the Second Sunday of Easter. The feast of Easter is so magnificent it merits 8 full days of full celebration.

I have to say, though, looking back at the Easter Triduum, this was not my happiest Triduum. It was so strange to celebrate the beautiful liturgies of those days without you here with me. I know many of you were there “virtually,” through our livestreaming, but it’s just not the same. Even so, Easter is what it is, with or without us. And the power of the Resurrection resounds in the lives of all who are open to the grace Jesus wishes to give us.

Usually I have a long list of folks to thank for making the Triduum liturgies beautiful. This year, sadly that list is short, because I wasn’t able to allow many to help. But I do want to thank those who were able to pitch in. I especially thank Tom Browne for covering the images in the church (especially the new murals) and Mary Butler for sewing the new huge veils to cover the new murals. Also, thanks to Julie Mullen for doing her best to decorate with flowers, given the limited resources currently available, and to Nena Brennan for her assistance as sacristan. Also, a big thanks to the lectors who volunteered to read during the liturgies: Brenda Doroski, Patty Pacheco, Martha Hurley, Jeff Gribshaw, Lorraine Hoppe, and Scott Staron.

And I also want to thank the **Altar Servers** who volunteered. I don’t know if you noticed, but all of the Servers were actually **college students** who have graduated from serving Mass in the parish over the last few years, but answered my call to “come back” to serve the Triduum (I didn’t want to impose any risk on the younger boys). It did my heart good to have these young men back in sanctuary, and they did the excellent job I knew they would. Thanks to Jacob Berger, Jarod Slaton, Christophe Sanchez-O’Brien, Louis Hatcher, Joseph Hatcher, James Drouillard, Michael Weyrich and Brendan Kapp.

And finally, thanks to the parish staff for all they have been doing, and the risks that they insisted on taking, to serve you and me during this pandemic.

Livestreaming. I will continue to livestream my private Masses until the restriction on public Masses is lifted. I’m glad it seems to be helpful to many of you.

But I do share the concern that some of my brother priests have suggested: that some of you might get used to this and consider it an adequate replacement for the real thing, i.e., attending Mass in the church in person.

I think most of you see, know and even feel the difference, and would never trade “virtual attendance” at Mass for real attendance at Mass. Of course, the former does not fulfill the obligation of attending Sunday Mass (an obligation the bishop has waived only for this pandemic time). But the reason for that is key: to oversimplify, just as Jesus is not merely *virtually* present in the Eucharist, we should not be merely *virtually* present to Him at Mass. He and His sacrifice are really truly present in the Mass, just as He was really truly present in the manger in Bethlehem and on the Cross on Calvary and in the upper room on the evening of the Resurrection. And we must be really present to Him, if we are able.

I think most of you will find the depravation of your real presence at Masses as an inspiration to more profoundly

appreciate and participate in Mass when public Masses are allowed again. But some of you might allow yourself to be confused. Please, don’t be.

Divine Mercy Sunday. This Sunday is also called “Divine Mercy Sunday.” This title is relatively new, established only in the year 2000 by Pope St. John Paul II, in recognition of the ineffable mercy that flows from the Paschal Mystery of Christ’s suffering, death and resurrection. The Pope was inspired to make this designation by the writings of St. Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun who claimed that Jesus Himself had requested this during His private apparitions to her during the 1930s. The Lord reportedly also told St. Faustina: “I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain the complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flows are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet.” Although private apparitions/revelations such as this need not be believed or accepted by Catholics, they are often recognized by the Church as “worthy of belief.” That is so in this case, and the private promises of remission of punishment on this Sunday has been echoed by the Church which has officially established a *plenary indulgence* for this Sunday:

“...granted under the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer for the intentions of Supreme Pontiff) to the faithful who, on the Second Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday, in any church or chapel, in a spirit that is completely detached from the affection for a sin, even a venial sin, take part in the prayers and devotions held in honor of Divine Mercy, or who, in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed or reserved in the tabernacle, recite the Our Father and the Creed, adding a devout prayer to the merciful Lord Jesus (e.g. Merciful Jesus, I trust in you!)”

Many people ask me when you must go to confession to receive the indulgence. The Church has officially decreed: **“within several days (about 20) before or after the indulgenced act.”** For a good, brief explanation of indulgences in general, I recommend the Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1471ff.

Many people are also concerned this year because **they will not be able to receive Holy Communion**, as is required for this indulgence. But the original papal decree granting the indulgence stated, **“all who for a just cause cannot leave their homes** or who carry out an activity for the community which cannot be postponed, may obtain a plenary indulgence on Divine Mercy Sunday, if ...[they have] the **intention** of fulfilling **as soon as possible** the three usual conditions [sacramental confession, **Eucharistic communion**, and prayer for the intentions of Supreme Pontiff],....” So, you can receive the indulgence without receiving Communion if you intend to receive Communion as soon as the Church permits it.

Easter Continues. Remember, the Season of Easter continues until Pentecost Sunday, May 31. This reminds us not only of the historical reality of the Risen Christ’s physical presence on earth after the Resurrection, but also that in the midst of all the sins, temptations, sufferings, and fears of life, we keep our hearts fixed on the fact and grace of the Risen Christ.

Oremus pro invicem, Fr. De Celles

GOSPEL JN 20:19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week,
when the doors were locked, where the disciples were,
for fear of the Jews,
Jesus came and stood in their midst
and said to them, "Peace be with you."
When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side.
The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.
Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you.
As the Father has sent me, so I send you."
And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them,
"Receive the Holy Spirit.
Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them,
and whose sins you retain are retained."
Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve,
was not with them when Jesus came.
So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord."
But he said to them,
"Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands
and put my finger into the nailmarks
and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."
Now a week later his disciples were again inside
and Thomas was with them.
Jesus came, although the doors were locked,
and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you."
Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands,
and bring your hand and put it into my side,
and do not be unbelieving, but believe."
Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!"
Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have
seen me?
Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."
Now, Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples
that are not written in this book.
But these are written that you may come to believe
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God,
and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

Is the Lord Calling You? "Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." Do you have an interest to share the Lord's saving mission as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Call Father Michael Isenberg 703-841-2514, or write: michael.isenberg@arlingtondiocese.org.

Project Gabriel Mom needs your help! Needs clothes, diapers, infant car seat for son due to be born soon! To donate or for more information / questions, please contact Beth Berger at kmb43@verizon.net

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.

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The good folks at **MaRiH Pregnancy Care Center** are humbly astonished by our continued support during this challenging time. Clearly the requests for material help that they receive have grown of late. Our next support weekend will take place on the weekend of May 2-3. Donations of diapers, formula, baby items and gently used clothing up to size 2T may be placed in the collection box in the narthex. **God bless you.**

Calling all high school juniors and seniors to the Virginia Society for Human Life (VSHL) Pro-life Oratory Contest. **It's virtual this year!** <https://vshl.org/update-due-to-covid-19-vshl-oratory-contest-now-virtual>

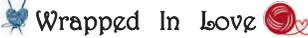
Online learning - for life!

Over the past several years, St Raymond's has been blessed to have both Stephanie Gray and Abby Johnson speak at our parish. Visit these sites to listen and learn from other of their most remarkable speeches: Stephanie Gray: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DzzfSq2DEc4>
Abby Johnson: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SIcDw2tJczI>

Do you have time now to read?

Love Unleashes Life, by Stephanie Gray, offers a fresh approach to pro-life apologetics. It is designed to equip people to reach not only people's minds but also their hearts, on the controversial topic of abortion. 123 pages. Available through Amazon.

Do you have extra time on your hands?

Our  **Wrappd In Lovz** program is still up and stitching. Pray for the mothers and babies who will be wrapped in love by your efforts as you create baby blankets for distribution at Crisis Pregnancy Centers or for use by sidewalk counselors – wherever we find a need. God bless you for your efforts. Blankets may be delivered to the MaRiH collection box in the narthex.

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

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

As of March 12th **with the exception of WorkCamp and Steubenville**, ALL Youth Apostolate Events are canceled effective immediately, until further notice. We will let you know when we can meet again.

Canceled Events include:

- CCD / Sunday Night Dinner & Youth Group

High School Virtual Youth Group meets via Zoom on Monday nights at 8pm! RSVP to youth@straymonds.org for the link.

Steubenville Youth Conference (July 10-12, 2020)

(Open to current 8-12th graders)



Join us for Steubenville 2020! It is a weekend where you will encounter God on a deeper level through prayer, Adoration, Mass, Confession, dynamic speakers, and music with a few thousand other Catholics your age! It's a great opportunity to make new friends too!

NEW DEADLINE: APRIL 19TH

Registration info. can be found on the youth bulletin boards and/or online, along with information about speakers, schedule, cost, etc. <http://bit.ly/Steubenville2020>

Please Note: If the Conference ends up being canceled due to COVID-19, you will receive a FULL refund.

*Financial assistance is available. Don't let money keep you from coming. Contact Jeanne with any questions.

Diocese of Arlington Summer Discernment Camps for High School Students:

Rising 9th through 12th grade boys: The Diocese of Arlington's Quo Vadis Camp is July 12-16. Rising 9th through 12th grade girls: FIAT Camp is July 19-13. Both camps are at Mount Saint Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, MD. Contact: vocations@arlingtondiocese.org

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION



My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

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

Dear Parents: **THANK YOU** for your patience and cooperation during this unprecedented time. We are very blessed to have dedicated volunteer teachers who continue to work very hard - under difficult circumstances - to see your children through the remainder of the religious education school year.

Distance learning CCD classes resume this week April 19-21. Parents, please check your email inbox for class assignments from your child's CCD teacher and monitor completion of the work assigned. Please be sure to return all required assignments to the teacher in a timely manner.

Next week's class (April 26-28) should be a review for the final exam.

Final Exams will be administered - remotely - the week of May 3-5. Parents, please work with your children in learning the material in the Second Semester section of the Basic Study Questions booklet for their grade level.

Parents: you will receive an email from your child's teacher regarding the final exam as we get closer to the time of the test.

BLESSED AND HAPPY EASTER to you all!!



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!

5-Car Raffle: The drawing is April 25th. If at all possible, please purchase or sell your tickets and return them to All Saints as soon as possible. The **deadline for returning tickets to All Saints is this Tuesday, April 21.** Early returns will assist in even volumes for processing. As nice as it is to have a "burst" towards the deadline, it is even better for our volunteers who are counting and processing tickets to have most of the returns before the last couple of weeks. If you need more tickets call Larry Saenz 703-832-1042 or email at lsaenz1@verizon.net.

ECHO continues to respond to families struggling to cope with financial challenges and/or lack of food. Currently, the food pantry can use **any type of food or personal care items**. Because of shortages, we are asking for donations of **eggs and margarine**. We also especially need sliced bread, canned meats, boxed pasta, dried beans, canned tomatoes, flour, shaving cream, deodorant and toilet paper. We need cleaning supplies, wipes, and sanitizers. We have an urgent need for standard sized **brown paper grocery bags**. We are open to receive donations on weekdays from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm, and on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield, VA. Donors do not even have to get out of their cars, or bring bags or boxes to the door. Volunteers will come to your vehicle to get the donated foods.

Church Persecuted

This Mercy Sunday reminds us of a classic Catholic movie, *The Scarlet and the Black*. In it, Gregory Peck and Christopher Plummer recount the true story set in Rome during WWII of the interactions between Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty and Colonel Herbert Kappler, respectively. Kappler, the newly appointed gestapo Chief of Police for Rome, begins his rounding up of Jews for the concentration camps and also escaped Allied prisoners. For his part, Msgr. O'Flaherty and his band of helpers hid refugees and Allied POWs from the Nazis throughout Rome and inside the Vatican itself. This led to such a hatred of Msgr. O'Flaherty that Col. Kappler wanted him captured regardless of the monsignor's diplomatic immunity.

As the Allies enter Rome in June 1944 and Col. Kappler realizes that the end is near, he arranges for Msgr. O'Flaherty to meet him in the Roman Coliseum with a specific request – to use his network to evacuate his wife and children. During his interrogation, Kappler is grilled about how he arranged for his wife and children to be smuggled out of Italy to Switzerland. He could only answer, "I do not know." He realizes that Msgr. O'Flaherty not only was behind that act of mercy, but also after Kappler received a life imprisonment, while in prison, he had only one visitor – the monthly visit by Msgr. O'Flaherty. Eventually the gestapo officer converted to Catholicism and was baptized in 1959.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES St. Lucy Project is in GREAT NEED OF FOOD! As we are all aware, unfortunately there can be no parish food drives until regular public Masses resume. However, in his "shelter-in-place" order, our Governor has declared that food banks are an essential service; and the need for food to feed families in our communities is even greater now than ever. On **Friday, April 24th**, St. Bernadette will be participating in a new and creative St. Lucy Food Drive Project - "NO CROWD - DROP AND GO - NO CONTACT - Drive-Thru Food Drive". Here is how it will work: A St. Lucy Food truck will be parked in St. Bernadette's parking lot from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm to receive food donations. Donors will line up in their cars (NO CROWD), drive up to the truck, roll down their driver-side windows, DROP the plastic bag (no cloth bags please) in a large box without leaving their car, and then GO (drive off). Catholic Charities staff will stay with the truck (NO CONTACT) and drive the truck back to their warehouse for safe distribution to those in need. *There will be no physical contact between the driver and the St. Lucy staff and no one will need to leave their car.* We hope you can drive-thru and help those in desperate need during this time. Many thanks and blessings.

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We continue to pray for all those affected by the coronavirus.

We are so grateful for **CL@H!** Continued Learning@Home is how our students, teachers and parents stay in touch while our school building is closed. And, most importantly, we stay united in prayer.

A heartfelt thanks to all those who donated to the Saint John Bosco Campaign to support Angelus Academy. We reached our goal through the generous donations of many benefactors!

Rolling admissions for 2020-2021 remain open. Please contact admissions@AngelusAcademy.org for more information. Our Admissions Team welcomes your questions and looks forward to sharing information with you about our mission, curriculum and school traditions.

www.AngelusAcademy.org

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LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Easter	\$ 13,948.00
Family Assistance	\$ 1,675.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 1,062.00
Holy Land Shrines	\$ 982.00

Please remember that our parish's expenses will continue during this crisis, We need your continued support! You may mail your donations to the parish office or sign up to give online through Faith Direct.

FAITH DIRECT: Although public Masses, Religious Education, Bible Study, Apostolate events and events involving ten or more people at a time 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. Faith Direct is a safe and secure way to make your offertory. Please visit our website www.straymonds.org to join online or call directly at (866) 507-8757. You may also sign up through the mail using a downloadable form provided on our website or email mary.butler@straymonds.org. Please use our church code "VA64". If you have any questions or concerns, please call our church office at 703-440-0535.

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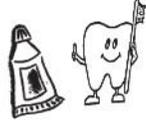
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