

## Pastor's Corner

**10 Years.** This Tuesday, July 7, will mark the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my arrival at St. Raymond's. The time has flown by.

In one of my early columns I wrote: "I take very seriously the title "Father." Since solemnly promising celibacy to Christ and His Bride, the Church, at my diaconate ordination ...I have tried to more deeply live and interiorize that gift in union with Christ the Bridegroom, and to understand myself as wedded to His Bride, with all her children as my own. Every time someone calls me "Father" I am reminded of this. But now this fatherhood, in some ways, takes on a more direct and consequential meaning, since ...I am, before God, entrusted with the care of your souls and am profoundly obliged to do everything in my power to see that the eternal life you were born into at baptism grows ever stronger so that it may reach its fullness in the joy of heaven."

It has been a true joy to be your spiritual Father. Although life on earth is never perfect, and my sins still weigh me down, I can say I have never been happier in my life. I thank God every day for my priesthood, and for giving me this wonderful parish. I truly love being the Father of this parish, and of each of you.

It has been a great 10 years for me. And I thank you for your patience, assistance, docility, reverence, forgiveness, obedience, loyalty, generosity, affection and love. And I look forward to another 10 years with you. What great things God has in store for us!

And as always, I ask for your prayers and promise mine to you. As I write so often, "oremus pro invicem!"—let us pray for one another!

**BLM Attacks Praying Catholics.** The violence of Marxist-inspired groups continues. Last week in St. Louis, Mo. a group led by Black Lives Matters attacked Catholics praying at the statue of St. Louis. According to LifeSiteNews: "Yesterday, while praying for peace and unity in our city and the protection of the Saint Louis statue, Black Lives Matter protesters started to harass, berate, and assault the Catholics that were peacefully praying," Connor Martin, one of those praying at the vigil, posted to social media. "We did nothing in retaliation. We allowed them to spit on us, call us names, put their fingers in our faces, push us, and antagonize, but we did not retaliate. We continued to peacefully pray...At that moment someone in the crowd poured an unidentified liquid on [an] older man ...and [he] was then attacked by a violent individual.... We got the elderly man out of there safely... when the mob approached him. They asked if he was with me, and when he said yes they began to berate him. They took his walking stick from him and when he didn't react they knocked his hat off of his head, called him a skin head, and attacked him. At this point I intervened to pull the attacker off of my friend, and I was attacked by the mob and the attacker. I have a video attached below of the assault... This can not stand... The police were called 6 times by others on the sidelines and never showed up..."

**SCOTUS Mixed Results.** Last week the Supreme Court handed down 2 decisions that were especially newsworthy to Catholics, one decision that was bad news, the other good news. And once again Chief Justice John Roberts was the

deciding vote in both. In the bad news case, the court ruled unconstitutional a Louisiana law requiring physicians performing abortions to have active admitting privileges at a hospital located not further than thirty miles from the abortion clinic.

In explaining his vote with the majority, Roberts contrasted his position with the others in the majority, reminding us that in 2016 he had voted against the Court's decision in an almost identical case overturning an almost identical law from Texas, "...and [I] continue to believe that the case was wrongly decided. The question today however is not whether [the 2016 Texas case] was right or wrong, but whether to adhere to it in deciding the present case.... The legal doctrine of stare decisis requires us, absent special circumstances, to treat like cases alike. The Louisiana law imposes a burden on access to abortion just as severe as that imposed by the Texas law, for the same reasons. Therefore Louisiana's law cannot stand under our precedents."

"Stare decisis ('to stand by things decided') is the legal term for fidelity to precedent...The Court accordingly considers additional factors before overruling a precedent...In those instances, '[r]emaining true to an 'intrinsically sounder' doctrine established in prior cases better serves the values of stare decisis than would following' the recent departure. ...."

Some say Roberts wording here is a signaling, "this is not the case we want to use to overturn Roe v. Wade, let's wait for a case with better facts." Perhaps.

But in the second decision Roberts gave us a much happier decision. In that case the court found that a Montana program granting individuals tax credits for donating to organizations that award scholarships for private school tuition could not prohibit scholarships to religious schools. This time Roberts voted with and wrote the opinion for the majority, finding that the law, "discriminated against religious schools and the families whose children attend or hope to attend them in violation of the Free Exercise Clause of the Federal Constitution." Excellent.

**Snitching on Your Brothers.** Last week I wrote about the mainstreaming of Marxism, including manipulation of the government into adopting vile Marxists tactics. A good example of this is found on the Virginia Department of Health's website, which encourages us to snitch on each other if we don't like the way someone is observing, or not observing, the mandates of the Governor's coronavirus orders. There's even a form to report violators of "the requirement to wear a face covering while inside buildings..."

My dear sons and daughters, **this cannot be applied to your brothers and sisters at our church.** As St. Paul teaches very clearly, in 1 Corinthians 6:1-8 "*When one of you has a grievance against another, does he dare go to law before the unrighteous instead of the saints? ...So if you have such cases, why do you lay them before those who have no standing in the church? I say this to your shame. Can it be that there is no one among you wise enough to settle a dispute between the brothers, but brother goes to law against brother, and that before unbelievers? ...Why not rather suffer wrong? Why not rather be defrauded? But you yourselves wrong and defraud—even your own brothers!*"

*Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles*

**MASS INTENTIONS****Monday, July 6th**

6:30 am The Galligan Family  
8:30 am Louis Skrehot +

**Tuesday, July 7th**

8:30 am Ben & Mandy Shealy

**Wednesday, July 8th**

6:30 am John Nassar +  
8:30 am Geoffrey Bald +

**Thursday, July 9th**

8:30 am Donna Foster

**Friday, July 10th**

6:30 am Youth of the Parish  
8:30 am Alan Shealy +

**Masses to be said Privately**

July 7 Eduardo Visaya +  
July 8 Matthew & Heather Perricone  
July 9 George & Diane Watson  
July 12 The Mooney Family

**Saturday, July 11th**

9:00 am Jean-Luc Murray

**Vigil Mass**

5:00 pm  
Eduardo Visaya +

**Sunday, July 12th**

7:00 am  
Rosewitha Snavelly +  
9:00 am  
Parishioners  
11:00 am  
Cesar (+), Rosalino (+), &  
Elie Garcia  
1:00 pm  
Huyen Nga & Chieu Nguyen+

**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 Nena Brennan 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 Chris Quan Debra Henkel Daniel Moore Maria Daugherty	Michael Franetic George Thomas Rouson, Jr Howie DeWolf Lauren Hornsby Adeline Brickner Gaudencio Dizon Kitty Lynch Casey Boga Antoinette Baptist Courtney Wheeler Peter Vannucci David Snavelly Earhart Family
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**Public Masses Have Returned!**  
**Modified Schedules****Weekday Masses will be :**

8:30 am Monday thru Friday  
6:30 am Monday, Wednesday, & 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: 11:00 am

**In the Church**

(in person, in the flower room),  
**Confessions**

Wednesday: 6:15 pm - 7:00 pm

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

**Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

There will not be adoration from June 15 - July 15, 2020 due to the construction on the Altar Rail Project.

**Watch for our Constant Contact Updates!** If you are not receiving them, please contact the parish office at 703-440-0535 or [office@straymonds.org](mailto:office@straymonds.org) to verify your e-mail 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/](http://straymonds.org/religious-education/volunteer-registration-form/). Please complete and return the form to the Religious Education Office.

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

**Altar Rail Project Update** The first of the new tile pieces was installed on Monday morning (June 29) and we are on track for completion of the flooring phase by mid-week the week of July 5. We look forward to unveiling the new flooring for Masses later this week. Unfortunately, we don't have an up-to-date status for the marble Rails and Ambo pieces as of this writing.

**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](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/MJM).

**PARISH SECRETARY POSITION AVAILABLE** - Our parish is looking for a full time Parish Secretary. For more information, contact Mary Butler at 703-440-0535 or [mary.butler@straymonds.org](mailto:mary.butler@straymonds.org).

**GOSPEL MT 11:25-30**

At that time Jesus exclaimed:  
"I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,  
for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to little ones.  
Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will.  
All things have been handed over to me by my Father.  
No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal Him."  
"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.  
Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves.  
For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

**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 all donations are welcome (no clothing). 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.**

**The House of Mercy (HOM) has reopened!** St. Raymond's is now accepting donations for HOM. **HOM will only be accepting a limited number of items currently: accepting only clothing and small household items that can fit in regular trash bags.** NO boxes, furniture, or large items will be accepted at this time. All donations must be placed in plastic trash bags before being deposited at St. Raymond's (outside the library door inside the church door nearest to the rectory). POC is Jim Mault ([jmault1@cox.net](mailto:jmault1@cox.net)).

**Angelus Academy** is currently accepting resumes for part-time teachers of art, music/choir, and Spanish and for a part-time preschool aide. Please contact Mrs. Vivian Zini, Director of School Mission, at [employment@angelusacademy.org](mailto:employment@angelusacademy.org) to apply. Positions may be combined to create a half- or full-time position.

**Help Needed!** ABC Mobile Ultrasound and Pregnancy Resource Center [abestchoice.us](http://abestchoice.us) is a Christ centered ministry and the only mobile ultrasound and pregnancy resource center in the DC area. "We reveal the truth via ultrasound at a time when a mother is in the decision making process." **ABC is in need of a new ultrasound tech.** If you are skilled in this profession and interested in more information, please contact Angela Clark at 703-946-3077 or at [abestchoiceforyou@gmail.com](mailto:abestchoiceforyou@gmail.com).

**SAINT RAYMOND'S RESPECTS LIFE**

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

*America, defend life!  
Saint Pope John Paul II*

**MaRiH Pregnancy Care Center Thanks YOU!** From a note received from the MaRiH Director: "Wow, Christmas again at the center! ... Every month Saint Raymond's just steps up... We really need these sizes [of diapers]. Wow and wow again! Thank you so much!" **Our next MaRiH Support Weekend is July 11/12.** Your continued generosity is truly life giving. God bless you.

The issue of **vaccines** is in the news as scientists 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/frequently-asked-questions/use-vaccines/> Please consult the parish website for more detailed information.

**If you feel called to peacefully witness outside the Alexandria Women's (Abortion) Clinic near Landmark Mall,** please contact Geneva Park at [Jim.Geneva@cox.net](mailto:Jim.Geneva@cox.net)

**Do you have extra time on your hands? Special thanks to those who have been making such beautiful blankets!!** Our



**Wrapped In Love**



program is 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 Pregnancy Care 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](http://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](http://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](http://www.helpafterabortion.org).

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



## St. Raymond's Youth Apostolate

### Class of 2020: College Nights

Attention Class of 2020: The Associates of St. John Bosco invites rising college freshmen to attend a College Night at one of the following parishes:

St. Michael - Annandale: July 9

St. Mary - Alexandria: July 22

St. Mary - Fredericksburg: July 29

College Nights are free to all students and provide resources and support for keeping your Catholic faith when entering college this fall. Catholic student representatives from George Mason, UVA, the University of Mary Washington, William & Mary, Virginia Tech, and other private and public schools will be on hand to share their experiences of being a Catholic college student. This is an excellent opportunity to network with other Catholic students and to receive resources for the transition to college only a few months away. The Nights begin at 7:00 PM, and students are encouraged to wear their college t-shirt to the event! To register for one of the College Nights and for additional information, visit our website at [www.asjb.org](http://www.asjb.org). Registration is limited to 50 students per night. \*\* Our College Nights will be held according to all Virginia Covid-19 Guidelines for social distancing and group size.

### Heading Off To College?

The Arlington Diocese Office of Youth, Campus, and Young Adult Ministry encourages you to go to <https://bit.ly/CampusMinistryStudentInfo> to enter your information. They will then send this information to the campus ministry at the college where you plan to attend. (This includes community college so that we can add them to our database of current community college students!) This is critically important this year because campus ministries typically rely on summer orientation to gather student information.

### Vocations Spotlight



Did you know that Fr. Nicholas Barnes, parochial vicar at St. Theresa's in Ashburn, was a parishioner at St. Raymond's before he became a priest? His advice to you, "Don't be afraid of what God has in store because He definitely has a plan and His plan is way better than anything we could come up with."

**Jeanne Sause**

Director of the Youth Apostolate (Grades 7-12)

[youth@straymonds.org](mailto:youth@straymonds.org) Call/Text: 571-334-9890

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

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### IF IT IS YOUR INTENT TO HAVE YOUR CHILD TAKE PART IN THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (CCD) DURING THE 2020-2021 ACADEMIC

YEAR, please register sooner than later. Under the current circumstances, it is important we have an idea of how many students will be participating so we can make plans for the year.

You can pick up one of the bright orange registration forms in the Narthex of the church, at the Groveland entrance, in the Parish Office or outside the Religious Education Office. **Class enrollment is on a first come, first served basis so register early to get the session you want. Keep in mind that we will be reducing the number of students enrolling in each class in case we need to incorporate social distancing requirements in the classroom.**

**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, found in the same places as the student registration forms, and return it to the Religious Education Office. We are in need of the following:

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

Grade 1 Assistant Teacher

Grade 4 Teacher

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

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

Grade K High School aide

Grade 1 Teacher

Assistant Teacher

High School Aide

Grade 6 Assistant Teacher

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

Grade 2 Teacher

High School Aide

Grade 3 Teacher

Assistant Teacher

Grade 5 Assistant Teacher

Grade 7 Assistant Teacher

RCIC Teacher



### **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](http://www.KofC.org/JoinUs) to become a Knight today!

**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 e-mailing Elaine Perricone at [jpebtp@verizon.net](mailto:jpebtp@verizon.net) or by calling the parish office at 703-440-0535.

## Church Persecuted

As we celebrate the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence and subsequently establish the free exercise of religion later in the Bill of Rights, religious organizations and people of faith in Virginia find themselves inhibited from such free exercise. As of July 1<sup>st</sup>, the sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) law takes effect in the Commonwealth. Here is what it means for churches and religious ministries.

1. If a church or religious school makes employment decisions based on an employees' actions – which contradict to the organization's religious beliefs – they could be the target of a lawsuit.
2. Religious schools may be forbidden from only admitting students who align with the schools' beliefs.
3. Ministries who offer housing may be forced to combine rooms for men and women to accommodate "transgenders."
4. People may be forced to address others by pronouns for the opposite sex, or even by newly invented pronouns for neither sex.
5. The law allows Virginia to require insurance companies to include so-called "sex reassignment" interventions in the health plans they sell.
6. There are no religious exemptions for any of the above.

Source: <https://www.adflegal.org/blog/Virginia-huge-fines-churches-and-ministries-operating-according-beliefs>

# FORMED®

Get In-Formed!

## Holiness is Always in Season by Pope Benedict XVI

For a Christian, the way to reach perfection is to strive for holiness. What is true perfection? Christ's words are clear, sublime, and disconcerting, "Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect." To have God as our model is a dizzying thought! Yet the Church reminds us that, "All the faithful, whatever their condition or state in life, are called by the Lord to that perfect holiness." Holiness is always a call to every Christian of every age, a challenge for anyone who wants to follow in the footsteps of Christ. Dozens of saints are covered in this wonderful spiritual audio book. The Pope exhorts us through their lives, "Be holy! Be saints!"

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Questions? Need help? Email us at:

[formed@straymonds.org](mailto: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](http://www.AngelusAcademy.org)

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

**Parish Library:** The Parish Library will remain closed until further notice. While there is nothing quite like a good book in hand, and we regret that we can not make them available for circulation from our parish library at this time, please do check out online possibilities for good Catholic reading and viewing. Additionally, Ignatius Press ([ignatius.com](http://ignatius.com)) and Bethlehem Books ([bethlehembooks.com](http://bethlehembooks.com)) are wonderful publishers to purchase great literature for adults and children alike.

**Please note the parish schedule on the front of the bulletin is our normal Mass and Confession Schedule. Please reference the second page of the Bulletin for our current "temporary" schedule or visit the parish website.**

***Please remember that our parish's expenses will continue during this crisis. We need your continued support! Your donations may be mailed to, or dropped off at, the parish office or sign up to give online through Faith Direct.***

**FAITH DIRECT:** Although public Masses are limited, 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. Please visit our website [www.straymonds.org](http://www.straymonds.org) to join online or call directly at (866) 507-8757.

## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

<b>Sunday Offertory</b>	<b>\$11,819.00</b>
<b>Family Assistance</b>	<b>\$ 630.00</b>
<b>Maintenance Fund</b>	<b>\$ 5,770.75</b>
<b>Holy Father (Peter's Pence)</b>	<b>\$ 925.00</b>

**Next Week's Second collection will be for Pastoral Solidarity for the Church in Africa.** This collection helps to finance pastoral projects that support the maintenance and growth of the Church in Africa. Funded projects include outreach programs, schools, evangelization, and education of clergy and lay ministers.