

Pastor's Corner

As I wrote last week, I've been on vacation this week, returning too late to write my column, but back in time for Sunday Mass. Last week I included an excerpt on Capitalism from Pope St. John Paul II's 1991 encyclical *Centesimus Annus*. This week's excerpt is from his 1981 encyclical *Laborem Exercens*. The excerpt below discusses the origins of the dignity of work, and one of its key purposes.

Oremus pro invicem, Fr. De Celles

John Paul II, *Laborem Exercens*, 4 and 10

"4. The Church is convinced that work is a fundamental dimension of man's existence on earth. She is confirmed in this conviction by considering the whole heritage of the many sciences devoted to man: anthropology, paleontology, history, sociology, psychology and so on; they all seem to bear witness to this reality in an irrefutable way. But the source of the Church's conviction is above all the revealed word of God, and therefore what is a conviction of the intellect is also a conviction of faith. The reason is that the Church—and it is worthwhile stating it at this point—believes in man: she thinks of man and addresses herself to him not only in the light of historical experience, not only with the aid of the many methods of scientific knowledge, but in the first place in the light of the revealed word of the living God. Relating herself to man, she seeks to express the eternal designs and transcendent destiny which the living God, the Creator and Redeemer, has linked with him. **"The Church finds in the very first pages of the Book of Genesis the source of her conviction that work is a fundamental dimension of human existence on earth.** An analysis of these texts makes us aware that they express—sometimes in an archaic way of manifesting thought—the fundamental truths about man, in the context of the mystery of creation itself. These truths are decisive for man from the very beginning, and at the same time they trace out the main lines of his earthly existence, both in the state of original justice and also after the breaking, caused by sin, of the Creator's original covenant with creation in man. When man, who had been created "in the image of God.... male and female" hears the words: "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it" even though these words do not refer directly and explicitly to work, beyond any doubt they indirectly indicate it as an activity for man to carry out in the world. Indeed, they show its very deepest essence. Man is the image of God partly through the mandate received from his Creator to subdue, to dominate, the earth. In carrying out this mandate, man, every human being, reflects the very action of the Creator of the universe.

"Work understood as a "transitive" activity, that is to say an activity beginning in the human subject and directed towards an external object, presupposes a specific dominion by man over "the earth", and in its turn it confirms and develops this dominion. It is clear that the term "the earth" of which the biblical text speaks is to be understood in the first place as that fragment of the visible universe that man inhabits. By extension, however, it can be understood as the whole of the visible world insofar as it comes within the range of man's influence and of his striving to satisfy his needs. The

expression "subdue the earth" has an immense range. It means all the resources that the earth (and indirectly the visible world) contains and which, through the conscious activity of man, can be discovered and used for his ends. And so these words, placed at the beginning of the Bible, never cease to be relevant. They embrace equally the past ages of civilization and economy, as also the whole of modern reality and future phases of development, which are perhaps already to some extent beginning to take shape, though for the most part they are still almost unknown to man and hidden from him.

"While people sometimes speak of periods of "acceleration" in the economic life and civilization of humanity or of individual nations, linking these periods to the progress of science and technology and especially to discoveries which are decisive for social and economic life, at the same time it can be said that none of these phenomena of "acceleration" exceeds the essential content of what was said in that most ancient of biblical texts. As man, through his work, becomes more and more the master of the earth, and as he confirms his dominion over the visible world, again through his work, he nevertheless remains in every case and at every phase of this process within the Creator's original ordering. And this ordering remains necessarily and indissolubly linked with the fact that man was created, as male and female, "in the image of God". This process is, at the same time, universal: it embraces all human beings, every generation, every phase of economic and cultural development, and at the same time it is a process that takes place within each human being, in each conscious human subject. Each and every individual is at the same time embraced by it. Each and every individual, to the proper extent and in an incalculable number of ways, takes part in the giant process whereby man "subdues the earth" through his work...."

"10. Having thus confirmed the personal dimension of human work, we must go on to the second sphere of values which is necessarily linked to work. Work constitutes a foundation for the formation of family life, which is a natural right and something that man is called to. These two spheres of values—one linked to work and the other consequent on the family nature of human life—must be properly united and must properly permeate each other. In a way, work is a condition for making it possible to found a family, since the family requires the means of subsistence which man normally gains through work. Work and industriousness also influence the whole process of education in the family, for the very reason that everyone "becomes a human being" through, among other things, work, and becoming a human being is precisely the main purpose of the whole process of education. Obviously, two aspects of work in a sense come into play here: the one making family life and its upkeep possible, and the other making possible the achievement of the purposes of the family, especially education. Nevertheless, these two aspects of work are linked to one another and are mutually complementary in various points.

"It must be remembered and affirmed that the family constitutes one of the most important terms of reference for shaping the social and ethical order of human work. The teaching of the church has always devoted special attention to this question, and in the present document we shall have to return to it. In fact, the family is simultaneously a community made possible by work and the first school of work, within the home, for every person...."

MASS INTENTIONS**Monday, Sept. 7th****Labor Day**

10:00 am Riley Clark

Tuesday, Sept. 8th

8:30 am RE Students & their families

Wednesday, Sept. 9th

6:30 am Joseph Ammirati

8:30 am Elizabeth Brisson +

Thursday, Sept. 10th

8:30 am Christine Peeler

Friday, Sept. 11th

6:30 am World Leaders

8:30 am Diane Watson

Masses to be said Privately

Sept 8 Megan Rafferty +

Sept 9 Leslie Schratz

Sept 10 Lupita Reynoso +

Sept 13 William A. Scherr +

Saturday, Sept. 12th

9:00 am The Teams of our Lady

Vigil Mass

5:00 pm Fr. De Celles

Irene Krosnick +

Sunday, Sept. 13th

7:00 am Fr. Willard

Pauline Iacoangelo +

9:00 am Fr. De Celles

Parishioners

11:00 am Fr. De Celles

Charlotte Roberts

1:00 pm Fr. Rippy

Joe & Johanna Healy

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 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

Chris Quan

Dennis Taylor

Quentin Hoffman

Julia Oaks

Margaret O'Neill

Carol Snavelly

Daniel Snavelly

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.

Public Masses**Weekday Masses will be:**

Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 7th - One Mass at 10:00 am

6:30 am Wednesday & Friday

8:30 am Tuesday thru 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

(No 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.

Labor Day: Monday, Sept. 7th is a federal holiday. There will be only one Mass at 10:00 am. It will be livestreamed. Parish Offices will be closed.

Altar Rail Project Update: Still waiting on word of when the ship (and marble) will leave the Bahamas! At press time, we don't have the timing of the ship's departure from Freeport or its arrival in Baltimore, but hopefully soon...

Father Tad Returns to St. Raymond's September 19th! Father Tad will be giving a talk on "New Ethical Challenges in the Midst of COVID." Registration is required. Please visit our website (straymonds.org) for more information and to register.

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 18:15-20

Jesus said to His disciples:
"If your brother sins against you,
go and tell him his fault between you and him alone.
If he listens to you, you have won over your brother.
If he does not listen,
take one or two others along with you,
so that 'every fact may be established
on the testimony of two or three witnesses.'
If he refuses to listen to them, tell the church.
If he refuses to listen even to the church,
then treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector.
Amen, I say to you,
whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven,
and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.
Again, amen, I say to you,
if two of you agree on earth
about anything for which they are to pray,
it shall be granted to them by My heavenly Father.
For where two or three are gathered together in My name,
there am I in the midst of them."

 **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.

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.

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 support weekend is **Sept 12/13. That's next weekend!** God bless you all for your continued generosity.

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.

Needed: Faithful Citizens to Shape the Future of Virginia Sat. Sept 12, 9-12:30 (Mass at 8am) Respect Life Conference at Holy Spirit Catholic Church (Annandale). Join us for an assessment of current and potential threats to human life and dignity and suggestions for effective practical grassroots response. Opening Prayer and remarks by Bishop Burbidge. **Keynote Address by Victoria Cobb, Family Foundation President.** This event will also be livestreamed. More info & registration arlingtondiocese.org/family-life/respect-lifeconference 703-841-2550.




September 23 – November 1. Stay tuned for details

College Scholarship Available:

Visit 40daysforlife.com/scholarship

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.

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 parish office or MaRiH collection box in the narthex.

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

Gearing up for the new year

Please keep the Youth Apostolate in your prayers as we gear up for a new year, which undoubtedly will have its challenges as we continue to face the unknown in light of Covid-19.

We are in need of more volunteers, particularly young adults, to help out with our high school youth group during the school year, which meets on Sunday nights from 7:45-9:15pm. Please contact Jeanne for more info.

Adults: Do you have a particular gift/talent to share?

Perhaps you are good at painting and could lead a paint night? Are you a talented guitarist? Perhaps you can lead praise and worship around the campfire? Do you have a gift for knitting/crocheting that you could teach our youth? We had a mom recently offer her skills in creating films, using green screens, and video editing and were able to produce the amazing film, "St. Raymond the Surfing Friar" (see below). What we are able to offer our teens largely depends on the skills we have available. Is God calling you? Contact Jeanne if you have an idea of something you may be able to share.

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

Religious Education classes begin NEXT WEEK September 13th! If you have not registered your child, please do so immediately, keeping in mind you may not get your first choice of class session.

Attention home school parents: if you have a child in a sacramental preparation year (grades 2, 7 and 8) it is necessary to register the child with the Religious Education Office.

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:

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

Grade 7 Assistant 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.



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!

St. John Bosco #12846 Knights of Columbus VISIT TO THE NATIONAL SHRINE GROTTO OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES (WWW.NSGROTTO.ORG) Knights and Families - Join us as we leave together from St. Raymond's on Saturday, September 26th, at 8:30 am to arrive at 10:00am. We will walk to the Grotto and pray a family rosary. This is a wonderful opportunity to consecrate your family to the care of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Bring small bottles to fill with the grotto holy water. Bring a bag lunch to have lunch as a community of Knights and families. Don't miss this special day! There is no cost for admittance. Call Larry Saenz at 703-832-1042 or email at lsaenz1@verizon.net to confirm your attendance.

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.

Church Persecuted

We continue to focus on life issues and those directly impacting religious liberty in the Democrat and Republican party platforms. This week our focus is on the Hyde Amendment which prohibits federal funding of abortions.

Democratic platform: "Democrats oppose and will fight to overturn federal and state laws that create barriers to reproductive health and rights. We will repeal the Hyde Amendment, and protect and codify the right to reproductive freedom."

Republican platform: "American taxpayers should not be forced to fund abortion." ...[W]e call for codification of the Hyde Amendment and its application across the government, including Obamacare."

Comment: The Hyde Amendment was created in 1976. It bars federal funds to be used for abortion services. This Amendment has been embedded in all the appropriate funding bills year after year. The Affordable Care Act bypassed the Amendment by requiring that the insurers provide funds for abortion services.

Next week: conscience clauses for healthcare providers and the requirement that religious hospitals perform abortions, transgender surgeries, etc.

(The entire series of party platform articles and other articles can be found at <https://straymonds.org/religious-liberty-blog/>.)

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.**

FORMED® Get In-Formed!

Mother Teresa - In an acclaimed film portrayal, Olivia Hussey illuminates the life story of Mother Teresa of Calcutta, the selfless missionary who brought hope, love, and salvation to the poorest of the poor. The movie examines the fundamental moments of Mother Teresa's life from her childhood in Albania in the 1920s to her first calling as a nun, the decision to leave her order and live with the poorest of the poor, the challenges of founding the Congregation of the Missionaries of Charity, and her great work of service in Calcutta and the rest of the world. Her faith and loving works transcended hardships and ultimately earned her international acclaim, including the Nobel Peace Prize. The many small miracles, great charity, and humble triumphs of Mother Teresa will inspire you in this poignant tale of a modern-day saint.

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.

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

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 spoiledk9s@verizon.net. If you are interested in Fridays, please call Virginia Osella at 703-440-0535 or email virginia.osella@straymonds.org. And we can always use substitute adorers!

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	\$ 10,481.50
Family Assistance	\$ 1,450.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 5,621.00

The second collection today is for Catholic University of America. Please be generous.