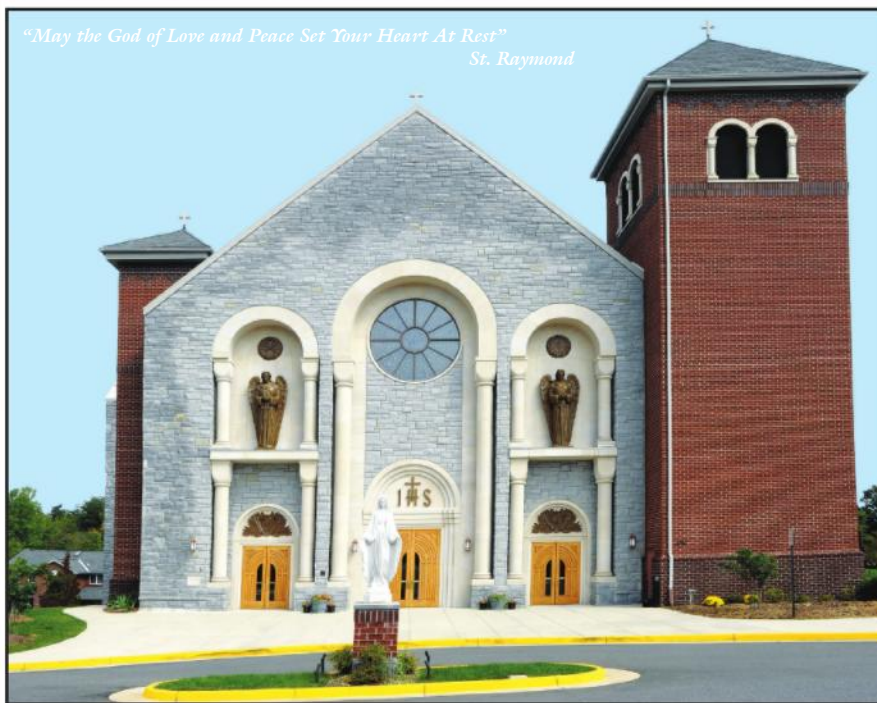


# PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

*"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, 9:00 am,  
11:00 am and 1:00 pm

**WEEKDAY MASSES:**  
Monday through Friday:  
8:30 am  
Saturday: 9:00 am

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

Rev. John C. De Celles, Pastor  
Elisabeth Turco, Director of Liturgical Music  
Jeanne Sause, Director of Youth Apostolate  
Mary Salmon, Director of Religious Education  
Vince Drouillard, Religious Education Secretary  
Joe Marquart, Plant Manager  
Kirsti Tyson, Office Manager  
Mary Butler, Secretary  
Virginia Osella, 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](mailto:Office@straymonds.org)  
Rel. Ed.: [ReligiousEducation@straymonds.org](mailto:ReligiousEducation@straymonds.org)  
Choirs: [Music@straymonds.org](mailto:Music@straymonds.org)

**Website**

[www.straymonds.org](http://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**

6:00-6:55 p.m. (during Exposition)

**Saturday Morning**

8:00 - 8:45 a.m.

**Saturday Afternoon**

3:00 - 5 p.m.

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Wednesday from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm

Friday from 9:00 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.

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



## Pastor's Corner

**HOLY WEEK.** Today we enter the holiest week of the year, commemorating the holiest week of all time, when the God of heaven and earth, creator of all the universe, God the Son, eternally begotten of God the Father, condescended to suffer and die in our flesh for the sins of all mankind. The week Jesus offered Himself as a living sacrifice out of love for His Father and for us.

A week that changed the world forever, echoing throughout history until the end of time. And so today we remember it not just as something that happened 2000 year ago, but as something that is alive today. And we use the gifts of intellect, reason, sensation, emotion and faith to take us back, to be and walk with Jesus, and with Mary, John, Peter, Magdalene, Pilate and Caiaphas...and Judas. To see what they saw, hear what they heard, feel what they felt, and even touch what they touched.

And so we use visible, audible and tactile realities to draw us into these events: we sing hymns, look at pictures or watch movies, read and listen to Scripture. We pray the Sorrowful Mysteries fingering our Rosaries, and we walk the Stations of the Cross. And we actively participate in the very special liturgies of this week, that outwardly and ritually express the holy mysteries.

We begin today with **Palm Sunday of Our Lord's Passion**, as we hold the palms and greet Jesus triumphantly entering Jerusalem at the beginning of that first Holy Week. And then we listen as multiple readers proclaim the drama of the Passion of the Lord from St. Mark's Gospel, and verbally join "the crowd," even shouting with Caiaphas, "Crucify Him."

And then there's **Holy Thursday**. There are no Masses all day long anywhere in the Diocese, except for the morning Chrism Mass at the Cathedral. But on Thursday evening the parishes celebrate their only Mass of the day: **The Mass of The Lord's Supper** (7:00pm). Here we celebrate the institution of the Sacraments of the Priesthood and Eucharist at the first Mass celebrated by Our Lord just hours before He was to suffer. Afterwards we process with our Eucharistic Lord from the church to the Parish Hall, just as the apostles walked with Jesus from the Upper Room to the Garden of Gethsemane, and there we watch and pray until Midnight, recalling Our Lord's agony and betrayal.

We awake on **Good Friday** to a church that is stripped as much as possible of all decoration: the altar is stripped of its cloths, and the candles, crosses and rugs—every moveable ornament—are gone. This reminds us how the first disciples were stripped of all earthly consolation and how the Lord was stripped of all outward appearance of human dignity during His trial and suffering, and how He was finally stripped of His clothes, to be hanged naked on the Cross. Recalling all this, we join in Our Lord's suffering by fasting and abstaining from meat (see rules elsewhere in this bulletin). From noon to three, wherever we are, we try to observe a time of quiet recollection—perhaps in church, but also even at work or home—recalling these are the hours Jesus hanged on the cross.

And then at 3 o'clock, the hour of His death, we all gather in the church for the solemn **Celebration of the Passion of the Lord**. Every year I am profoundly moved by this most unique liturgy, as the faithful come together to stand

with Mary, John and Magdalen at the foot of the Cross. Their senses and faith lead their minds and hearts back over the centuries to Calvary, as their eyes see the Cross and all the eloquent rituals, and their ears hear the words of the Gospel, the prayers and the glorious yet sorrowful music of the choir. And then they walk up slowly and reverently, many in tears, to gently touch or tenderly kiss the wood of His Cross. And finally, their tongues taste the goodness of the Lord, as He comes to console them in Holy Communion.

Later on Good Friday we have the **Stations of the Cross at 7:00pm**. A great way to end this most holy day of the year.

Then on **Holy Saturday**, though no Masses are said during the day, we join the whole Church waiting "at the Lord's tomb in prayer and fasting" by our somber prayerful reflection and voluntarily continuation of the fast and abstinence of Good Friday (as the Church strongly encourages). But then, when the sun goes down on Saturday evening, the Light of Christ shines forth as we begin the celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord with the **Easter Vigil Mass (8:30pm)**, with all sorts of unique ceremonies: the blessing of the Easter Candle; the chanting of the *Exsultet*; a richly extended Liturgy of the Word; celebration of adult Baptism, reception into the Church, and Confirmation. It is a glorious Mass (however, lasting two hours, it can be tough for little ones).

**2020 vs. 2021.** Last year I was required to celebrate the Triduum with only myself, Fr. Willard and 8 other lectors and servers. It was honestly one of the saddest weeks of my life, saved only by the grace of the Paschal Mystery. Thanks be to God, thousands of you were able to watch these special Liturgies on livestream.

This year part of me is overjoyed that at least 250 of you will be able to join me live in the Church (1000 on Easter Sunday), but part of me is still heartsick that most of you will not be able to attend, either because of COVID concerns or capacity limits. I was hoping and praying the capacity limit would be modified in time for the Triduum, but of course that is not happening. God's will, trust in Jesus.

But I hope all of you who can't attend in person (here or elsewhere) will be able to **join us through livestreaming**, especially on Good Friday and Easter Sunday. In particular, as always, I beg you to try to attend or watch the Good Friday 3pm Liturgy, such a unique and Holy Liturgy. This is the holiest hour of the year, the hour of the death of Our Lord. **What in the world could be more important than this?!**

**Confessions.** And don't forget we have **Confessions all week** (except Holy Thursday and Easter), with **multiple confessors** at multiple scheduled times. We also have daily Mass Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning. See the schedule below.

**Scam Emails.** Once again someone is contacting parishioners using my name to scam them for money. Remember: 1) I have only one email address—never believe any email purporting to be from me that is not from [fr.decelles@gmail.com](mailto:fr.decelles@gmail.com); 2) I will never email you asking for any kind of money or gift card unless it is part of a bigger project the whole parish knows about; 3) report any scam emails to me or the office.

*Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles*

**MASS INTENTIONS****Monday March 29th**

8:30 am Ed Ward +

**Tuesday, March 30th**

8:30 am Mary Salmon

**Wednesday, March 31st**

8:30 am Mary Berger

**Thursday, April 1st**

Holy Thursday

7:00 pm Andrew Shealy

**Friday, April 2nd**

Good Friday

- No Masses -

**Masses to be said Privately**

March 29 Phil Ciarlo Family +

March 30 Patricia Zolper +

March 31 Dennis Spiegel +

March 31 Azeb Gide Hundessa

**Saturday, April 3rd**

No Morning Mass

**Easter Vigil Mass**

8:30 pm Fr. De Celles

For those brought into the  
Church at the Vigil**Sunday, April 4th****Easter**

7:00 am Fr. Daly

Celebrant's Intention

9:00 am Fr. Rippy

Celebrant's Intention

11:00 am Fr. De Celles

Celebrant's Intention

1:00 pm Fr. De Celles

Celebrant's Intention

**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  
Colleen McFadden**Please pray for the sick of our parish**

Glenn Bliss

Tom Dietz

Michael O'Neill

Cindy Laird

Patricia Lewis

Barbara McGinn

Mai Pham

Joan Opiela

Donald Zacherl

Leonora Ramos

Jason Saenz

Phyllis Zitnik

Mary K Randazzo

Patricia Del Buono

Michael

Malachowski

Juanita Boarman

Angela Colom

John Florio

Debra Henkel

Daniel Moore

Maria Daugherty

Lauren Hornsby

Gaudencio Dizon

Antoinette Baptist

Ada Prabhavat

Julia Oaks

Paul Haynes

Minnie Taylor

Dwayne Taylor

Bernadette

D'Agostino

Christopher Quan

Ted Tolpa

Dennis Kruse

Antoinette Baptist

John Gill

Linda Gill

Rachel Valdez

Michael Buzas

Ellen Trayer

Julie Carroll

Anna Ramos

Anne DeLong

Bob DeLong

Ellen Enzweiler

Nena Brennan

Patti Eckels

Isabel Silva

Linda Kramer

Serrin Foster

Teresa Saldana

**HOLY WEEK and EASTER**

Monday - Wednesday, March 29th-31st,

Mass at 8:30 am (Livestreamed)

Confessions 6:00 pm- 7:00 pm

Wednesday: Adoration 9:00 am -7:00 pm

Sign ups are required for all Triduum & Easter Liturgies & they will also be Livestreamed

**Holy Thursday, April 1st****No morning Mass / No Confessions**

7:00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by

Night Watch in the Parish Hall until Midnight

**Good Friday, April 2nd**

Confessions 11:00 am- Noon, 4:45 pm -6:00 pm,

&amp; 7:30 pm until the line runs out

Celebration of the Lord's Passion

(Veneration of the Cross &amp; Communion Liturgy) 3:00 pm

Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm

**Holy Saturday, April 3rd**

Noon—Blessing of the Food

1:00 pm—3:00 pm Confessions

8:30 pm Easter Vigil Mass

**Easter Sunday, April 4th**

Masses at 7 am, 9 am, 11 am (livestreamed)

&amp; 1 pm (Masks Mandatory)

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

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

**Parish Offices will be closed Good Friday, April 2nd &  
Easter Monday, April 5th.**

**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](mailto:office@straymonds.org) to verify your email address.

**Lenten Podcast.** Join Father De Celles for a brief daily reflection by subscribing to his podcast (Apple Podcasts/iTunes, Spotify, Google Podcasts, etc.) on your smartphone or visit our website. New episodes air Monday - Saturday through Easter. If you have missed any, you may listen to them by going to our website.

**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 [jpebt@verizon.net](mailto:jpebt@verizon.net) or by calling the parish office.

**Fasting and Abstinence**

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of both fasting and abstinence, and every Friday in Lent is a day of abstinence. Failure to "substantially" keep these penances is grave matter (e.g., potentially a mortal sin). The law of abstinence requires that no meat may be eaten on these days, and binds all Catholics who are 14 years old or older. No other penance may be substituted. The law of fasting binds those who are between the ages of 18 and 59. The Church defines "fasting," for these purposes, as having only one full meal a day, with two additional smaller meals permitted, but only as necessary to keep up strength and so small that if added together they would not equal a full meal. Snacking is forbidden, but that does not include drinks that are not of the nature of a meal. Even though these rules do not bind all age groups, all are encouraged to follow them to the extent possible. Children in particular learn the importance of penance from following the practice of their older family members. The sick, pregnant or nursing mothers, and other folks with special physical circumstances may be partially or totally exempt from these rules—use good judgment and take care of yourself.

**Volunteers Needed!** St. Raymond's is looking for additional volunteers to read at Mass. Being a lector is very inspiring and helps you become more involved in the Mass. You will only be scheduled for the Masses you request. Please consider this awesome opportunity and if interested, contact Phil Bettwy by phone at 703-690-6379 or by email at [PBettwy@aol.com](mailto:PBettwy@aol.com)

**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. We will **not** be meeting on April 3rd, Holy Saturday. Please join us at 7:30 am Saturday, April 17th. For more information, call Dave Wilson, 703-966-5327.

**CAR RAFFLE UPDATE:** Thanks to all those who have returned their car raffle tickets and to those who have requested extras to sell to their relatives, friends, co-workers, bowling team, etc.—special thanks to all of the volunteers who continue to help each week!! This is our last push so if you need extra raffle tickets or did not receive them please email me and I will drop them off at the Parish Office for you. [Lsaenzl@verizon.net](mailto:Lsaenzl@verizon.net) or 703-832-1042. **Please note that raffle tickets should be returned to All Saints. Please mail directly to All Saints in the envelope provided. Checks should be made payable to All Saints.**

**Gabriel Project of St Raymond's is helping two moms this Lent!** One mom is preparing for her baby's birth and needs our help with the following: First aid kit and Baby grooming kit, Baby carrier, Bottles, Shampoo for baby and lotion/rash/powder, Bibs, Nasal Aspirator & Thermometer, Diaper Bag, Bedding Set, Swaddles / blankets, Burp clothes, Pacifier.

Also, another mom needs help celebrating her son's first birthday. If you would like to contribute any of the following, it would be so appreciated: Clothes size 18 months, Shoes size 4, Books, Toys, Socks 12 to 18 months, Baby gates. Any questions or for more information please contact Beth Berger, 703-220-4316 or email, [kmb43@verizon.net](mailto:kmb43@verizon.net)

**Fr. James Gould**, our former pastor while we were building our beautiful church, **will be celebrating the 40th Anniversary of his Ordination** this year! His current parish, St. Francis de Sales, is asking for pictures and stories from his prior assignments. If you have anything you would like to submit, please send it to: Sandy Twetten at [sandra@onmessageinc.com](mailto:sandra@onmessageinc.com) by April 4th. Any questions, please call her at 703-872-9880. They are also seeking prayer offerings for a Spiritual Bouquet for Fr. Gould. Please e-mail them to [maria.nog.byrd@gmail.com](mailto:maria.nog.byrd@gmail.com) or call Maria at 205-362-7514 with questions.

**Spring/Summer 2021 Class to enter the Catholic Church (RCIA)** - will be offered at St Raymond's Parish on **Monday evenings 7:30 to 8:30 pm April 12, 2021 until August 30, 2021 (except for Memorial Day, May 31, and July 5, 2021)**. This program is based on the teachings of the Catholic Church and designed to prepare 1) *baptized adult non-Catholics* to enter the Catholic Church, and 2) *baptized adult Catholics* seeking First Holy Communion and/or Confirmation. **Also, anyone who desires a better understanding of Catholic teachings and practices are welcomed.** No advanced registration is required. The standard RCIA program will be offered beginning in September 2021. If you have questions call Bob or Bev Ward 703-644-5873 or via e-mail at [rew6710@gmail.com](mailto:rew6710@gmail.com).

## SAINT RAYMOND'S RESPECTS LIFE

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

### THANK YOU

to all who participated in the 40  
days for Life Spring Campaign. May  
God bless you for your sacrificial  
witness to  
the sanctity of human life.  
"Be not afraid."



*The MaRiH center*  
An Alternative to Abortion

**Volunteers needed!** The MaRiH Center is a Pro Life Crisis Pregnancy Center operating in Alexandria since 1974. We are seeking volunteers! Spanish language skills are especially desirable but not required. The MaRiH Center is open Monday-Thursday from 10-3 and on Saturday from 10-1. MaRiH is entirely volunteer run and donation based. Please call 703-370-4774 or email [marihcenter@gmail.com](mailto:marihcenter@gmail.com) for additional information and a tour. Or visit [marih.org](http://marih.org). We look forward to volunteering with you! **May God bless you for your continued support!**  
**Our next Parish Support Weekend for baby items is April 10/11. Donations welcomed in the narthex.**

**Please see the parish website for updated information regarding COVID-19 Vaccines and their relation to aborted fetal cell lines. You must speak up!**

**Tepeyac Pro Life OB/GYN: Transforming Hearts Through Healthcare.** [tepeyacobgyn.com](http://tepeyacobgyn.com) 703-273-9440. Thank you for your referrals and your support.

**Natural Family Planning.** A gift to your marriage. For more info visit: [celi.org](http://celi.org)

**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.

**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).

**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

### **NO High School or Jr. High Youth Group until 4/11**

High School & Jr. High Youth Group will NOT meet over the weeks of Spring break. We will reconvene on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 11th. May this Holy Week draw you deeper into the mystery of Christ's love for you and deepen your love for Him.

### **Talitha Koum: High School Girls' Group** **7-8:30pm Monday, March 29th (Maurer Room)**

Instead of having our next girl's group meeting on the originally scheduled date of April 5 (Easter Monday), we will be meeting on **Monday, March 29th**. All high school girls are invited to join us for a fun night of fellowship while tie-dyeing! **We will be tie-dyeing shirts, so dress to be outside and bring a white T-shirt to dye if you can! Note that we will be meeting in the Maurer Room this week and NOT the parish hall.** Make sure forms (below) are on file before coming.

### **WORKCAMP June 19th & 21st-25th**

### **REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!!**

St. Raymond's will be holding our own version of **WorkCamp this summer, June 19th & June 21st-25th. Teens must commit to the full day for all 6 days in order to participate.** We will have daily Mass, work in crews on projects, have fun, eat dinner & have an evening program etc. but will sleep at home. **WorkCamp is open to current 9th-12th graders.** We will be helping several families with some pretty exciting projects! No prior WorkCamp, construction, or tool knowledge is necessary as everything will be taught on site and supervised by our contractors. **Cost is \$100**, but we would never want cost to be the reason someone does not participate, so please contact Jeanne if this is an issue. Go to the website <http://bit.ly/workcamp2021> for more info. and/or to register.

### **Youth Apostolate Participation 2 REQUIRED Forms**

Forms can be found online at <http://bit.ly/YAforms>

**Jeanne Sause**

Director of the Youth Apostolate (Grades 7-12)  
[youth@straymonds.org](mailto:youth@straymonds.org) Call/Text: 571-334-9890  
<http://bit.ly/youthapostolate>

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Prayers for abundant blessings upon all of you during this Holy Week. Please take time to reflect on "Christ's love manifested in His Passion and Cross" (from Fr. De Celles' column last week) and to participate in the Holy Week and Easter Liturgies either in person or by livestream access.

### **Parents, mark your calendars!!!**

**No CCD classes THIS WEEK** - March 28, 29 and 30: Holy Week

**No CCD classes NEXT WEEK-** April 4, 5 and 6: Easter Week  
Return to regular schedule of CCD classes April 11, 12 and 13

**Parents of students preparing to receive the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist for the first time in May:** First Holy Communion mini-retreat is scheduled for Saturday April 24th. More information to follow.

**Catholic Book Club:** The next Parish Book Club meeting is on Friday, **April 9th** in the Maurer Room at 10:00 am. There is limited space but virtual attendance is possible... The book for discussion is *From the Depths of Our Hearts* by Benedict XVI and Cardinal Robert Sarah (148 pgs). Newcomers welcome. If you have any questions or to register, please contact Jim Mault at [bookclub@straymonds.org](mailto:bookclub@straymonds.org)

**Gift Shop:** Our next Sale in the Narthex will be on **March 28** after each of the Sunday Masses. You can also make an appointment to visit the Shop during the week by calling the parish office. **Thinking about gifting a sacramental item for that special sacramental occasion?** The shop carries a variety of gifts: Baptism frames and baby medals, simple to elegant Rosaries, simple to sterling silver and pewter medals and chains, bracelets, wood crucifixes, St. Joseph statues, and many other gift ideas for First Holy Communicants, Confirmandi, and RCIA candidates. The gift shop also has gift item ideas for Mom on Mother's Day. **Note:** future Sales Dates: **April 10** (after 9 am Saturday morning Mass), **April 18 and April 25** after the weekend Masses.

**Legion of Mary:** The Legion of Mary weekly meeting is held Virtually on Monday evenings at 7:30 pm. All auxiliary members and anyone interested in joining the Legion of Mary are welcome. For more information, please contact Tom Delaney at 703-690-1930 or by e-mail at [tdelaney51@verizon.net](mailto:tdelaney51@verizon.net)

**ART, DRAMA, MUSICAL THEATRE CAMPS for K-12:** Into its 17th summer hosted by All Saints & Nativity Churches, instructors for these camps combine their professional arts backgrounds and faith to create a marvelous experience in July for high school teens, middle school, and elementary youth.

**Broadway Spotlight and Drama Bootcamp** include presenters from the *Kennedy Center*, *Off-Broadway*, *Ringling Brothers*, and a *VA Teacher of the Year*. **Art Camps** are taught by *Diocesan Catholic School Art Teachers with award winning backgrounds*. Young people from various experience levels are welcome. Camps are designed to both be fun and challenging with a goal to aid campers in their growth in the arts. This month, **all camps are \$20 off plus everyone gets a free t-shirt.**

Learn more and register at [www.SpotlightSummerCamps.com](http://www.SpotlightSummerCamps.com)

## Church Persecuted

We continue our story of religious persecution within the Church itself, about the young priest who refused to dissent from the encyclical, *Humanae Vitae* which reiterated the Church's teaching against birth control. The leader of the dissenters, an ex-Marine priest, used coercive tactics to try to get the young priest to sign like his 54 brother priests in the archdiocese. He continued to refuse. Not one of those priests sided with him.

As this young priest grew older and moved from Baltimore around the country first as auxiliary bishop, bishop, archbishop, and finally cardinal, "he found that the isolation and the dissent followed him wherever he went." The young priest was the now deceased Francis Cardinal Stafford. The dissent with him and with others took the form of silence...dissenting priests and bishops just did not address the topic of birth control from the pulpit, in writing, in counseling. In marriage preparation and marriage counseling their silence became an affirmation of the use of artificial birth control.

The aging cardinal talked about a later meeting with the ex-Marine priest. "He remained silent...There was no common ground. He died while serving a large suburban parish. The only remaining option is to strike my breast and pray, 'Lord, remember the secret worth of all our human worthlessness'." The presbyterates around the country never recovered from those events of 1968. The dissent among many clergy remains to this day.

See both columns at [Religious Liberty Blog - Saint Raymond of Penafort Catholic Church \(straymonds.org\)](https://www.straymonds.org/blog/saint-raymond-of-penafort-catholic-church).

(Source: <https://ccli.org/2013/07/part-5-humanae-vitae-45-years-later-is-it-still-relevant>)

## FORMED®

### Get In-Formed!

**The Search Episode 7 - Why a Church?** How do I access this man who lived 2000 years ago? How do I live this call of love? We uniquely encounter the love of God in His Church. But really? The Church? There are so many negative views of the Church. It's out of touch. It's full of bad people. It's just too boring. Maybe when we say "The Church" we mean a little more. The church is the family of God that's been lovingly gathered through our entire story. It's the place we were meant to encounter His grace that prepares us for every step of life. The God that is love knows how we're made – material and spiritual – we need tangible ways to live our faith. We can't be spiritual but not religious. This is where we'll find ultimate happiness in life. This is where the God that has been seeking humanity, who wrote the deepest desires onto our human hearts, encounters us. Jesus' first words to humanity in the Gospel of John are "what do you seek?" The one that asked the question not only knows the answer, He is the answer. The answers to everything. And you find him most profoundly here in His Church.

**Be Led by the Spirit this Lent and**

**Watch now at [www.straymonds.org](https://www.straymonds.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](mailto:formed@straymonds.org)



## Angelus Academy

Pre K—8th

*Offering a liberal arts education in the classical tradition.*

We are currently accepting applications for the 2021-2022 school year. There is limited space available, so please apply soon. Our online application form and other enrollment information can be found at <https://angelusacademy.org/admissions-overview/applying/>.

Looking for a gentle introduction to school for your 3-4 year old? Our Little Messengers program, held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, includes Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (Atrium).

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

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**Encourage One Another by Word and Deed:** The BLA provides an opportunity to unite as a Catholic family and support programs, ministries and services that no single individual or parish could offer by itself. After reflecting upon the many blessings that God has given you, please prayerfully consider making BLA pledge. Every donation is vital to the success of the BLA. You may go online to [www.arlingtondiocese.org](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org) or text "BLA" to 703-260-9800 to make a donation. Please help our parish reach our BLA goal! **Our parish is only at 20% participation.** Please consider donating if you have not yet!

**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.**

**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](https://www.straymonds.org) to join online or call directly at 866-507-8757.

### FAITH DIRECT MARCH 2021

|                          |              |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Sunday Offertory         | \$ 48,104.00 |
| Family Assistance        | \$ 2,279.00  |
| Maintenance Fund         | \$ 5,466.00  |
| Black & Indian Missions  | \$ 1,099.00  |
| Catholic Relief Services | \$ 4,112.00  |
| Easter Flowers           | \$ 1,084.00  |

### LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

|                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Sunday Offertory  | \$ 12,403.00 |
| Family Assistance | \$ 371.00    |
| Maintenance Fund  | \$ 6,391.00  |
| Easter Flowers    | \$ 2,856.00  |



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