

*He is Risen*



### Pastor's Corner

**Blessed and Happy Easter!** I can't tell you how happy I am to have so many join us for Easter Mass this year—compared to last year, when the Church was still closed to public Mass!

But today we celebrate: *Christus resurrexit! Resurrexit vere! Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti! He is risen! He is risen indeed!*

Thanks to all who worked so hard to help make this such a blessed Lent, Holy Week, Triduum and Easter Sunday. And remember, today is this just the beginning of this new Season of Easter, as we continue to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection for 50 days—until Pentecost. We begin with the 8 days of the Octave of Easter, celebrating each day as if it were Easter Day.

On behalf of myself, Fr. Daly and Fr. Rippy, may I wish you all a Blessed, Holy and Happy Easter and Easter Season! May the Risen Lord Jesus shower you with His grace, and may His Blessed Mother Mary, St. Mary Magdalene, St. Peter, and St. John and all the holy women, disciples and apostles who saw the risen Lord that first Easter Day keep you in their care in this Glorious Season!

**Fr. Daly.** By now you might have heard that Fr. Jerry Daly fell last week and broke his hip and leg. I am happy to pass along the good news that after surgery Fr. Daly is recovering well and hopes to be up and around very soon. Pray for his quick and strong recovery, and swift return to saying Mass for us.

*Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles*

+++

### EASTER VIGIL HOMILY (excerpt) POPE FRANCIS April 11, 2020

*"After the Sabbath" (Mt 28:1), the women went to the tomb. This is how the Gospel of this holy Vigil began: with the Sabbath. It is the day of the Easter Triduum that we tend to neglect as we eagerly await the passage from Friday's cross to Easter Sunday's Alleluia. This year however, we are experiencing, more than ever, the great silence of Holy Saturday. We can imagine ourselves in the position of the women on that day. They, like us, had before their eyes the drama of suffering, of an unexpected tragedy that happened all too suddenly. They had seen death and it weighed on their hearts. Pain was mixed with fear: would they suffer the same fate as the Master? Then too there was fear about the future and all that would need to be rebuilt. A painful memory, a hope cut short. For them, as for us, it was the darkest hour.*

*Yet in this situation the women did not allow themselves to be paralyzed. They did not give in to the gloom of sorrow*

*and regret, they did not morosely close in on themselves, or flee from reality. They were doing something simple yet extraordinary: preparing at home the spices to anoint the body of Jesus. They did not stop loving; in the darkness of their hearts, they lit a flame of mercy. Our Lady spent that Saturday, the day that would be dedicated to her, in prayer and hope. She responded to sorrow with trust in the Lord. Unbeknownst to these women, they were making preparations, in the darkness of that Sabbath, for "the dawn of the first day of the week", the day that would change history. Jesus, like a seed buried in the ground, was about to make new life blossom in the world; and these women, by prayer and love, were helping to make that hope flower. How many people, in these sad days, have done and are still doing what those women did, sowing seeds of hope! With small gestures of care, affection and prayer.*

*At dawn the women went to the tomb. There the angel says to them: "Do not be afraid. He is not here; for he has risen" (vv. 5-6). They hear the words of life even as they stand before a tomb... And then they meet Jesus, the giver of all hope, who confirms the message and says: "Do not be afraid" (v. 10). Do not be afraid, do not yield to fear: This is the message of hope. It is addressed to us, today. These are the words that God repeats to us this very night.*

*Tonight we acquire a fundamental right that can never be taken away from us: the right to hope. It is a new and living hope that comes from God. It is not mere optimism; it is not a pat on the back or an empty word of encouragement, uttered with an empty smile. No! It is a gift from heaven, which we could not have earned on our own. Over these weeks, we have kept repeating, "All will be well", clinging to the beauty of our humanity and allowing words of encouragement to rise up from our hearts. But as the days go by and fears grow, even the boldest hope can dissipate. Jesus' hope is different. He plants in our hearts the conviction that God is able to make everything work unto good, because even from the grave he brings life.*

*The grave is the place where no one who enters ever leaves. But Jesus emerged for us; he rose for us, to bring life where there was death, to begin a new story in the very place where a stone had been placed. He, who rolled away the stone that sealed the entrance of the tomb, can also remove the stones in our hearts. So, let us not give in to resignation; let us not place a stone before hope. We can and must hope, because God is faithful. He did not abandon us; he visited us and entered into our situations of pain, anguish and death. His light dispelled the darkness of the tomb: today he wants that light to penetrate even to the darkest corners of our lives. Dear sister, dear brother, even if in your heart you have buried hope, do not give up: God is greater. Darkness and death do not have the last word. Be strong, for with God nothing is lost!...*

**MASS INTENTIONS****Monday April 5th**

8:30 am James D Bowling, Jr.

**Tuesday, April 6th**

8:30 am Elizabeth Niedzwiecki

**Wednesday, April 7th**

8:30 am Christopher Laird +

**Thursday, April 8th**

8:30 am Eugene Bettwy +

**Friday, April 9th**

8:30 am Horvath Family

**Masses to be said Privately**

April 7 JoAnne Lessley +

April 7 Poor Souls +

April 11 RE Students & their  
Families**Saturday, April 10th**

9:00 am Linda Anezin

**Vigil Mass**

5:00 pm

Anna &amp; Jean Anezin +

**Sunday, April 11th**

7:00 am

Victor Costa +

9:00 am

Parishioners

11:00 am

Christopher Laird +

1:00 pm

Fanuly of Jesus Prayer Group

**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

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

Linda Gill

Michael Buzas

Nena Brennan

Patti Eckels

Isabel Silva

Linda Kramer

Serrin Foster

Fr. Jerome Daly

**Parish Offices will be closed Easter Monday, April 5th.**

**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**

**SUNDAY MASS TIMES**

**Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm**

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

Sign ups required for the 9:00 am & 11:00 am Masses

Masks Mandatory for the 1:00 pm Mass

**Confessions in the Church**

*(in the flower room)*

**Wednesdays: 6:00 pm - 6:55 pm**

**Saturday: 8:00 am - 8:45 am, 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm**

*Please see the front of the bulletin for our current Mass,  
Confession, and Adoration schedules.*

**Face masks are expected at all Masses unless you are  
exempt.**

**The 1:00 pm Sunday Mass is "Masks Mandatory".**

**Sign ups are required for 9 am and 11 am Sunday Masses.**

**Visit our website or contact the parish office.**

**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.

**Angelus Academy is celebrating 20 years!**

Please join our Gala celebration on the afternoon of Sunday, May 2 at Springfield Golf & Country Club. To purchase tickets, be a sponsor, or make a donation please visit [www.charityauction.bid/AngelusAcademy](http://www.charityauction.bid/AngelusAcademy)

**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)

**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).

**GOSPEL JN 20:1-9**

On the first day of the week,  
Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning,  
while it was still dark,  
and saw the stone removed from the tomb.  
So she ran and went to Simon Peter  
and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told  
them,  
“They have taken the Lord from the tomb,  
and we don’t know where they put him.”  
So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to  
the tomb.  
They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than  
Peter  
and arrived at the tomb first;  
he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did  
not go in.  
When Simon Peter arrived after him,  
he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there,  
and the cloth that had covered his head,  
not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate  
place.  
Then the other disciple also went in,  
the one who had arrived at the tomb first,  
and he saw and believed.  
For they did not yet understand the Scripture  
that he had to rise from the dead.

**Men’s Prayer Group:** On the first and third Saturdays of each month a group of men meet in the parish hall to pray and read the scriptures. They are neither theologians, philosophers, nor great scholars. Just some guys, coming together to pray, read, and share a simple breakfast. Everyone is welcome. Please join us at 7:30 am Saturday, April 17th. For more information, call Dave Wilson, 703-966-5327.

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

**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.**

**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.

**SAINT RAYMOND’S RESPECTS LIFE**

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

*“I came that  
they may have life  
and have it to the full.”  
John 10:10*

**Blessed Easter to all!**



*The MaRiH center*  
An Alternative to Abortion

**Volunteers needed! The MaRiH Center** is a Pro Life Pregnancy Support Center operating on Duke Street in Alexandria since 1974. We are seeking volunteers! Spanish language skills are especially desirable but not required. The MaRiH Center, entirely volunteer run and donation based, is open Monday-Thursday from 10-3 and on Sat. from 10-1. 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! **Next weekend is our Parish Support Week-end for baby items. Donations welcomed in the narthex.** May God bless you for your continued support!

**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: [ccli.org](http://ccli.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

*Alleluia! He is Risen!*

**NO High School or Jr. High Youth Group until 4/11**  
High School & Jr. High Youth Group will NOT meet on Easter. We will reconvene next week 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.



### **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.

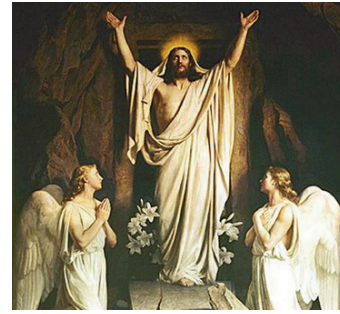
### **Youth Apostolate Participation 2 REQUIRED Forms**

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



**HE IS RISEN.  
HE IS THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE.  
FOLLOW HIM. DEPEND ON HIM. TRUST HIM.**  
Heartfelt wishes for a blessed Easter!!

**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 Saturday, **April 10** after 9:00 am morning Mass. 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 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

Responding to the “cancel culture!” Several years ago, Divine Mercy Care, the parent of Tepeyac Family Center, operated a pro-life pharmacy that did not dispense contraceptives. During their grand opening, a PBS reporter asked, “Why do you discriminate against women who want contraceptives?” The answer to the question, which was never aired, was that a woman would have to fly into the pharmacy from her home in a helicopter in order to arrive without passing another pharmacy that would happily dispense the birth control pills.

Same is true for Jack Phillips the owner of Masterpiece Cakeshop in Colorado. There are many bakeries near his cakeshop that would be happy to create a cake celebrating a same-sex “wedding” or a biological man becoming a woman. Jack has been to the U.S. Supreme Court twice, and won both times, protecting his First Amendment right to the free exercise of religion. The LGBT activists just won’t quit. A local LGBT activist attorney has now sued Jack because he politely declined to bake a cake celebrating her gender transition. This time the activist is suing Jack in state court solely to “banish him from the marketplace and intimidate him out of business” because of his religious beliefs.

Jack Phillips and others are protecting our religious liberty by not letting the cancel culture run them out of business because of deeply held religious beliefs.

(Jack Phillips story taken from [adfflegal.org](http://adfflegal.org).)

**Gabriel Project & St Raymond’s helped two moms this Lent!** Thank you to everyone who donated items to help one mom to prepare for her baby’s birth and the other mom who needed help preparing for her son’s first birthday. Any questions or for more information please contact Beth Berger, 703-220-4316 or email, [kmb43@verizon.net](mailto:kmb43@verizon.net)

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

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## Angelus Academy

Pre K—8th

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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!

[www.AngelusAcademy.org](http://www.AngelusAcademy.org)

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

**SHREDDING May 1.** The Knights of Columbus and Marian Homes will run a Shredding event from 10 am to 1 pm on Saturday, May 1st. Donations will support housing for the intellectually disabled and vocations. Bring your old documents, cancelled checks and such. No 3-ring binders, hard drives or metal objects other than staples and paper clips please. For more information call Dave Wilson, 703-966-5327.

**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), scan the code below, 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.**

## LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION

|                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Sunday Offertory  | \$ 11,588.79 |
| Family Assistance | \$ 2,418.00  |
| Maintenance Fund  | \$ 745.00    |
| Easter Flowers    | \$ 452.00    |



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