

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

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE (Reconciliation/Confession) <u>Wednesday Evening</u> 6:15-6:55 p.m. (during Exposition) <u>Saturday Morning</u> 8:00 - 8:45 a.m. <u>Saturday Afternoon</u> 3:00 - 5 p.m.

5th Sunday of Easter

> 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.

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: 703-440-0535 Rectory: Rel. Education: 703-440-0537 Fax: 703-440-0538 **Office Hours** Monday-Friday 9:30 am - 4:30 pm E-Mail

Church: Rel. Ed.: Choirs:

C Diocesan

Office@straymonds.org ReligiousEducation@straymonds.org Music@straymonds.org

Website www.straymonds.org

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

> Angelus Academy 7644 Dynatech Ct, Springfield, VA 22153 703-924-3996

Angelus Academy is a fully-accredited pre-K through 8th grade Catholic School affiliated with the Diocese of Arlington. Although it has no official connection with St. Raymond's, the parish has a longstanding close relationship with Angelus Academy. Many of our parish children already happily attend school there.

#### **Pastor's Corner**

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION.** Congratulations to all the children who received First Holy Communion at Mass today and at the Vigil last night! Because of the pandemic, last year we cancelled our customary special Saturday morning Mass for the kids to receive as one group, instead allowing the families to choose any regularly scheduled Mass they wished for their children to receive First Holy Communion. One happy result of this was to allow the whole parish to share in the happy occasion, which not only helps unite the children more closely to the parish, but also reminds the parishioners how important our children are to the parish. Beyond all that, seeing the little ones receive so reverently reminds us all of Jesus' call to "become like little children,' especially in our complete faith and tender love for Him in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Because of these benefits, this year most of the children will be receiving First Holy Communion at the Masses this weekend. Please watch them carefully, and learn/remember. And keep them in your prayers going forward.

**Dividend Windfall.** Most of you probably don't know this, but while the parish has a regular checking account for operations with a regular bank, the Bishop requires that our savings be entirely invested in what is called the Diocesan Investment And Loan Corporation (DIAL). This Corporation is wholly owned by the Diocese of Arlington, and is sort of like a credit union of the parishes and the other diocesan organizations, where we all deposit our savings and then borrow for special projects, like building new churches. In addition to lending money to the parishes, the DIAL also invests excess funds as a normal investor would, i.e., in stocks and bonds. While the interest rate on loans is 3.5%, the DIAL's return on other investments (e.g., stocks) has been much higher.

In return for our deposit we currently receive an annual interest rate of 2%--which last year amounted to \$40,431. This a good interest rate on savings, but not the best rate of return on a long-term investment. Recognizing this, Bishop Burbidge has declared that an **Extraordinary Dividend** be paid to all the depositors. For us this amounts to \$228,000, which has been deposited in our DIAL account, bringing our balance to approximately \$1,723,000.

There are, however, restrictions on how these funds can be used. That is, they **may be used/spent only "for extraordinary objectives**, such as campus and facility improvements and renovation, deferred facilities maintenance projects,...to enhance savings reserves, or to address some exceptional need."

**MONTH OF MARY.** The Church sets aside May as a month of particular devotion to the Blessed Mother. So let's review what are called the "**Marian Dogmas**." Remember, a "dogma" is a doctrine (teaching) that is revealed by God, either in Sacred Scripture or Sacred Tradition. There are four dogmas about Mary that have been formally declared as infallibly held by the Church. There are many other Marian doctrines that are also infallibly held by the Church, even if not formally declared as such.

**Mother of God.** The first Marian Dogma to be formally declared by the Church was the declaration by the Council of Ephesus, in 431, that Mary is "*Theotokos*" (in Greek), or "Mother of God." This was part of the Council's condemnation of the Nestorian heresy which denied the full divinity of Jesus; in declaring that Jesus was truly always fully God, they also declared that, therefore, Mary was truly the Mother of God. Directly related to this dogma is the doctrine of the "Queenship of Mary, that she is "Queen of Heaven and Earth" (and Queen of Apostles, Saints, Peace, Priests, etc....). After all, if she is the Mother of God/Jesus, she is surely the mother of the King/Jesus, which makes her the Queen.

Perpetual Virginity. The second Marian Dogma to be formally declared is her perpetual Virginity (Second Council of Constantinople, 553). The Church teaches that Mary was a perpetual virgin, the "ever-virgin Mary." This means she was a virgin all her life: "ante-partu, in-partu, et post-partu." So, she was a virgin before the birth of Jesus ("ante-partu") so that Jesus was conceived by the singularly miraculous act of the Holy Spirit and no act of man. Moreover, she remained a virgin after His birth ("post-partu") until the end of her life on earth. Finally, Mary was a virgin during the birth of Jesus ("in-partu"). The Church has always used the term "virginity" to mean that the "bodily integrity" of the female remains intact. Thus, Mary's "virginity inpartu" means that the actual physical act of giving birth to Jesus occurred in some miraculous way: He did not pass from Mary's womb physically in the same way all other babies pass from their mothers' womb, so that Mary's body was not damaged or altered in any way, and she incurred no birthing pains whatsoever. We do not know the details of how this happened, and the Church strongly discourages too much speculation on this. Even so, St. Thomas Aquinas (ST III, 28, 2) quotes St. Augustine (Sup. Joan. Tract. 121): "To the substance of a body in which was the Godhead closed doors were no obstacle. For truly He had power to enter in by doors not open, in Whose Birth His Mother's virginity remained inviolate."

Immaculate Conception. In 1854 Pope Pius IX, in Ineffabilis Deus, solemnly declared the Dogma that from the moment of her conception in the womb of her mother (Ann), Mary had never been tainted by the stain or effects of the original sin of Adam and Eve, as all other human beings have been (except, of course, for Jesus). Although in centuries past some had questioned whether and how this was possible, nevertheless, this doctrine was taught consistently in the Church back to antiquity. The reason God gave this singular gift to Mary was to prepare her to be the Mother of Jesus, i.e., so that no sin would touch Baby Jesus and so that Mary might be the very best and holiest mother to Jesus possible. All this in fulfillment of God's ancient promise to the devil (Genesis 3): "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall crush your head, and you shall bruise his heel." Part of this Dogma is the belief that Mary never committed even the slightest act of personal sin: her perpetual sinlessness.

Assumption. The Dogma of the Assumption of Mary was formally proclaimed in 1950 by Pope Pius X (*Munificentissimus Deus*). Rather than formally ending any historical theological debate or question, this formal declaration was more of an act of honoring the Blessed Mother by declaring something that had always been held by the whole Church without debate. The only question that had ever been raised was whether Mary actually died or if she just sort of fell asleep ("the Dormition"). Pope Pius deftly refused to settle that debate, as he taught: "the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever-Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory." Thus, Mary is the first, after her Son, to receive the fullness of the "Resurrection of the Body," that we all hope for one day.

#### Oremus pro invicem. Ad Jesum, per Mariam, cum Raymundus. Fr. De Celles

## MASS INTENTIONS

Monday May 3rd 8:30 am Brad Hoopes

Tuesday, May 4th 8:30 am Msgr. Francis McGann +

Wednesday, May 5th 8:30 am Family of Jesus Prayer Group

Thursday, May 6th 8:30 am Edward Flynn +

Friday, May 7th 8:30 am Joseph Maines + 7:00 pm EFM (Latin) Saturday, May 8th 9:00 am Nicholas Prabhavat+ & Pedro Ortiz +

Vigil Mass 5:00 pm Fr. De Celles Chris Quan

## Sunday, May 9th

7:00 am Fr. Rippy Mary Browne +
9:00 am Fr. De Celles Parishioners
11:00 am Fr. De Celles Eleanor & Annette Mazzei +
1:00 pm Fr. Peter Okola Mother's Day Triduum

**Extraordinary Form / Traditional Latin Mass at St. Raymond Church This Friday, May 7th.** St. Raymond's offers the Mass according to the Roman Missal of 1962, also known as the "extraordinary form of the Roman Rite" (EFM), at 7:00 pm on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of every month. For more information on this form of Mass, visit: http://www.sanctamissa.org.

#### View livestreaming of the Holy Mass at St. Raymond's! <u>https://straymonds.org/view-mass-online/</u> Monday - 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 Masks Mandatory for the 1:00 pm Mass

Confessions in the Church (in the flower room) Wednesdays: 6:15 pm - 6:55 pm Saturday: 8:00 am - 8:45 am, 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

<u>Face masks</u> are expected at all Masses unless you are exempt. The 1:00 pm Sunday Mass is "Masks Mandatory".

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 <u>office@straymonds.org</u> to verify your email address.

**Catholic Book Club:** The next Parish Book Club meeting is on Friday, **May 14th** in the Maurer Room at 10:00 am. There is limited space but virtual attendance is possible... The book for discussion is *Jesus and the Jewish Roots of Mary: Unveiling the Mother of the Messiah* by Brant Pitre (240 pgs.). Newcomers welcome. If you have any questions or to register, please contact Jim Mault at <u>bookclub@straymonds.org</u> 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	Michael	Minnie Taylor		
Tom Dietz	Malachowski	Dwayne Taylor		
Michael O'Neill	Juanita Boarman	Bernadette		
Cindy Laird	John Florio	D'Agostino		
Patricia Lewis	Debra Henkel	Christopher Quan		
Barbara McGinn	Daniel Moore	Ted Tolpa		
Mai Pham	Maria Daugherty	Nena Brennan		
Joan Opiela	Lauren Hornsby	Fr. Jerome Daly		
Leonora Ramos	Gaudencio Dizon	Bill Hotz		
Jason Saenz	Antoinette Baptist	Donald Hale		
Phyllis Zitnik	Ada Prabhavat	Christina Cautero		
Mary K Randazzo	Julia Oaks	Jacquelyn Ortiz		
Patricia Del Buono	Paul Haynes			

**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 <u>PBettwy@aol.com</u>

**Mother's Day Triduum-** Sunday, May 9th is Mother's Day. We will be honoring mothers with a Triduum of Masses on May 9-11. If you would like to include the special mothers in your life (ie. Mother, Grandmother, Godmother, etc.), cards are available in the narthex of the church or at the parish office. You may also call the office to add names and have a card sent.

**Luminaries of Holy Mary:** Come join us on June 5th to honor the Blessed Mother's request for making the 5 First Saturdays: Mass at 9am, then meet in the Parish Hall for Rosary, meditation and Gospel reflection. All are welcome.

**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, May 15th. For more information, call Dave Wilson, 703-966-5327.

Fr. Daly wishes to thank you all for your prayers and cards. He sincerely appreciates them. He is improving and has been moved to a rehab facility where he receiving physical therapy.

#### ST. RAYMOND OF PEÑAFORT PARISH 8750 POHICK ROAD, SPRINGFIELD, VIRGINIA 22153

## GOSPEL JN 15:1-8

Jesus said to His disciples: "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in Me that does not bear fruit. and every one that does He prunes so that it bears more fruit. You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you. Remain in Me, as I remain in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in Me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without Me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in Me will be thrown out like a branch and wither; people will gather them and throw them into a fire and they will be burned. If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. By this is My Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become My disciples."

**St. John Bosco Council #12846 Knights of Columbus:** Are you a man of 17 ½ years of more? Are you a practicing Catholic? Then we invite you to join the Knights! Contact Deputy Grand Knight Stephen Delaney (703-627-8090) or go to <u>www.KofC.org/JoinUs</u> to become a Knight today!

**Blood Drive:** The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a blood drive on behalf of Inova Blood Donor Services on Saturday, May 15, here at St. Raymond's parish hall from 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Please consider signing up for a 15-minute time slot within that period and giving the Gift of Life. You may sign up either online at www.inovabloodsaves.org or in the Narthex after all Masses in the coming weekends. If you have any questions or difficulty signing up, please contact Mark Maslyn of our parish at 703-690-7285 or by email at

#### mam7253@msn.com.

**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 <u>tdelaney51@verizon.net</u>

**John Paul the Great 9th Annual Gala:** Join the Saint John Paul the Great Catholic High School community for an evening of fun, food, and fundraising on Saturday, May 8! Enjoy dining al fresco under a beautiful open tent on JP's beautiful campus. Visit **ipthegreat.org** for ticket information.

**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 <u>jpebtp@verizon.net</u> or by calling the parish office.

#### SAINT RAYMOND'S RESPECTS LIFE Learn the TRUTH. Live the TRUTH. Spread the TRUTH... in LOVE

The Easter Season is a season of life. May Christ's Victory over death encourage us to continue to pray daily for an end to abortion.



The Mari H center

**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. Please call 703-370-4774 or email <u>marihcenter@gmail.com</u> for additional information and a tour. Or visit marih.org. We look forward to volunteering with you! **Our next Parish Support Weekend for baby items is NEXT WEEKEND May 8-9. Donations welcomed in the narthex. May God bless you for your continued support!** 

#### Please see the parish website for updated info regarding COVID-19 Vaccines and their relation to aborted fetal cell lines. <u>You must speak up!</u>

Get the TRUTH ABOUT THE EQUALITY ACT. Go to arlingtondiocese.org/equalityact to learn about the dangerous implications of the Equality Act and what you can do to try and stop its passage.

**EVERY SATURDAY MORNING from 8:00am -12:00pm** you have an opportunity to pray with others from Northern Virginia at the Falls Church Women's Healthcare Center (900 S. Washington St.). Your united prayers and physical presence are powerful deterrents to those entering the facility for abortion. Be part of the year-round movement to save lives and souls.

**Tepeyac Pro Life OB/GYN: Transforming Hearts Through Healthcare.** 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: <u>ccli.org</u>.

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.

*Give a Gift for Life! Gabriel Project* helps pregnant moms welcome their babies. Please consider donating at <u>www.arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife</u>. For more info, contact them at 1-866-444-3553 or *GabrielProject@arlingtondiocese.org*.

# St. Raymond's Youth Apostolate

Please continue to keep Christina Cautero in your prayers! Please continue to pray for Christina Cautero, wife of Joe and mother of 5 boys (ages 3-15), two of whom are active in our junior high & high school youth apostolate. Christina is still in great need of prayers as she recovers from a serious heart attack. Please also keep her family and medical team in your prayers.

#### Junior High (7th-8th Grade) Youth Group 5-6:30pm Sunday, May 2nd Parish Hall)

Come eat pizza, make new friends and have fun all while growing in your faith! All 7th-8th graders are welcome! You do not have to be a parishioner, or even Catholic for that matter, in order to attend. There is no charge, however, we do need the forms (below) on file before you come.

#### **High School Youth Group** 8-9pm Sunday, May 2nd (Parish Hall)

All students grades 9-12 are invited to join us to grow in faith & fellowship! No RSVP required. Make sure forms (below) are on file before coming.

#### Talitha Koum: High School Girls' Group 7-8:30pm Monday, May 1st (Parish Hall)

Join us as we cultivate and witness authentic community. friendships, and space to share our faith, learn and encourage one another in ways to practically apply the faith to our daily lives. You are welcome here! Make sure forms (below) are on file before coming.

## Art, Drama, Musical Theatre Camps for the Arts for K-12

Into its 17th summer hosted by our local Catholic 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. 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. Learn more and register at www.SpotlightSummerCamps.com



## Podcast: The Bible in a Year with Fr. Mike

<u>Schmitz</u> With this podcast, you won't just read the Bible in a year ... you'll finally understand how all the pieces of the Bible fit together to tell an amazing story that continues in your life today!

Each episode is only 20-25 minutes & includes: • Two to three scripture readings

- A reflection from Fr. Mike Schmitz
- A guided prayer to help you hear God's voice in his Word

To listen, search for "Bible in a Year" on your favorite podcast app or go to http://bit.ly/biblepod to listen online.

**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) vouth@straymonds.org Call/Text: 571-334-9890 http://bit.lv/vouthapostolate

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**



Congratulations and heartfelt prayers for God's richest blessings on our students who received their First Holy Communion this weekend. We are very happy for all of you!

## Final Exams will be administered May 10, 11 and

16. Parents, please work with your children in learning the material in the Second Semester section of the Basic Study Questions booklet for their grade level.

2021-2022 Religious Education Registration Forms are available in the Narthex of the church, in the Parish Office, outside the Religious Education Office and on the Parish website. Class assignment is made on a first come, first served basis with class sizes limited to 15 students. Register early to get your first choice!!

Volunteer teachers/catechists, assistant teachers and aides (high school students) are needed for the 2021-2022 Religious Education year. If you would like to help, please fill out a green Volunteer Registration form which can be found in the same locations as the student registration forms. Please complete and return the form to the Religious Education Office.

St. Martin de Porres Committee - collects non-perishable 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, 1qt. oil vs. 1 gal oil). During this crisis the need for food is greater than ever. Please be generous.

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.

Spring/Summer 2021 Class to enter the Catholic **Church (RCIA)** - is being offered at St Raymond's Parish on Monday evenings 7:30 to 8:30 pm 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 is welcome. 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 biblestudy@straymonds.org.

### **Church Persecuted**

We turn back to the Acts of the Apostles to see the value of the persecuted Church, its related suffering, and its impact. Stephen had been stoned to death, beginning a period of persecution with Saul heavily involved (Acts 8:1-3). Saul gets knocked to the ground as he was heading to Damascus to arrest more disciples of Jesus and bring them back to Jerusalem (9:1-9). The persecution scattered the disciples "as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch" (11:20). Philip headed up to Samaria (8:5). But as they scattered, "the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number that believed turned to the Lord" (11:21). Barnabas took the converted Saul under his wing and they went to Antioch where the disciples were first called Christians (11:25-26). In professing the good news of the yet to be written gospels, the disciples began a period of expansion of the Church.

Can we relate this to today? The Biden administration and several members of Congress are doing everything they can to deprive us of the freedom to live and practice our religion as they attempt to confine it to one hour per week at Church. As Father De Celles said in his daily homily last Tuesday, throughout history after each persecution of the Church, there is a great expansion of the Church. We are the disciples of today. What are we doing to preach the gospel and help others to believe and turn to the Lord (11:21)?

Mark your calendars! Fr. De Celles will celebrate 25 years of priesthood on May 18th! We will have a reception following each Mass (except 7:00 am) the weekend of May 22/23. Please plan to attend and thank our pastor for his service and dedication to our parish and the Church.

# **FORMED**°

#### **Get In-Formed!**

**Companions in Shipwreck** – In the era of cancel culture and shunning of our neighbors, we should look back at how friendship should be integrated into our lives. It may be as simple as getting to know someone, or going further and visiting them regularly. What can we learn of the true principles of friendship? Who can we learn it from? Look no further than the life of famed author and Catholic, J.R.R. Tolkien. The relationships he exhibited are a wonderful example for all of us to follow, especially with those we may disagree with. As Tolkien described marriage, it's all about being "companions in shipwreck."

Follow your host, Fr. Daren Zehnle, as we take a trip to Tolkien's home of Oxford, and hear wonderful interviews from esteemed people, including author Joseph Pearce, Dr. Mark Atherton - both experts on Professor Tolkien

#### Watch now at www.straymonds.formed.org

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Questions? Need help? Email us at: <u>formed@straymonds.org</u>



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 <a href="https://angelusacademy.org/admissions-overview/applying/">https://angelusacademy.org/admissions-overview/applying/</a>.

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

Please remember that our parish's expenses continue during this pandemic! Your donations may be mailed, dropped off at the parish office, or given online through Faith Direct. Please visit our website www.straymonds.org to join online or call directly at 866-507-8757.

FAITH DIRECT—APRIL 2021				
Offertory	\$	47,117.00		
Easter	\$	2,682.00		
Family Assistance	\$	1,564.00		
Maintenance Fund	\$	5,466.00		
<b>Catholic Home Mission</b>	\$	1,181.00		
Holy Land Shrines	\$	1,419.00		

## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Offertory	\$ 9,598.00
Family Assistance	\$ 650.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 330.00
Catholic Home Mission	\$ 1,612.00

The second collection next week is for Parish Special Needs. This year Fr. De Celles has designated it for Scholarships to Catholic Schools to help our families provide a faith-filled Education to their children.





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