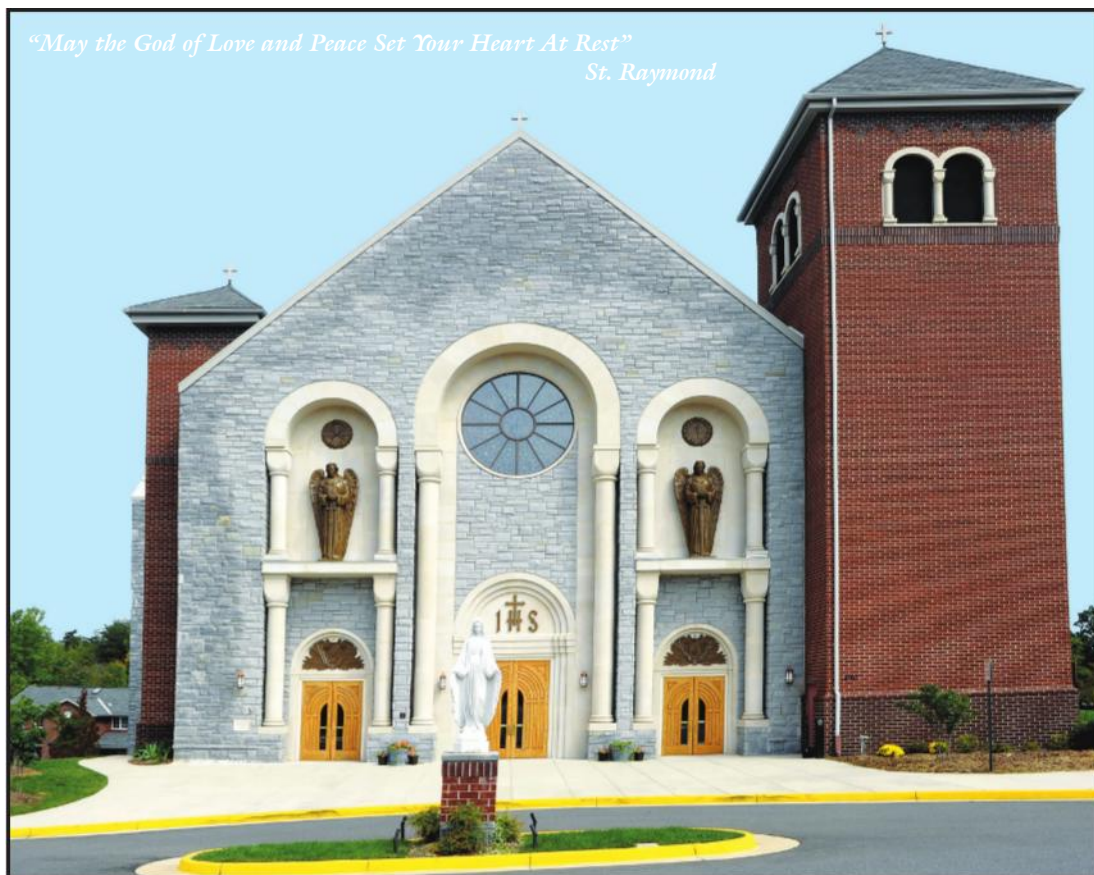


*"May the God of Love and Peace Set Your Heart At Rest"*  
*St. Raymond*



## **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  
Rel. Ed.: ReligiousEducation@straymonds.org  
Choirs: 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**

6:15-6:55 p.m. (during Exposition)

#### **Saturday Morning**

8:00 - 8:45 a.m.

#### **Saturday Afternoon**

3:00 - 4:45 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

**Welcome Fr. Horkan!** Today I am delighted to welcome Fr. Edward Horkan back to St. Raymond's (he served here as Fr. Gould's Parochial Vicar in 2007-2008). This time Fr. Horkan will only be in residence here, as his assignment (full-time job) is to work at the chancery (Diocesan "headquarters" in Arlington) as Vice Chancellor for the Diocese and defender of the Bond at the Diocesan Tribunal. Actually, he's starting that job tomorrow, so let's pray for him in his first week of these important responsibilities.

He will have NO responsibilities here in the parish, but he will voluntarily assist me with some Masses and Confessions, especially on the weekends. We're planning on letting him settle in a bit at the chancery before we figure out what he will have time to help us with in the parish.

Father was born in 1968, the youngest of the three sons of William and Lilla Horkan. He grew up in McLean, Virginia and attended Saint Luke grade school and Bishop O'Connell High School. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia, majoring in economics and minoring in English literature. He received his law degree (JD) from the University of Virginia in 1993. He practiced law (mostly tax law) from 1993 to 1997 in Washington DC.

In 1997 he began his seminary studies at Mount St. Mary Seminary in Emmitsburg, MD, soon transferring to the North American College in Rome, earning an S.T.B. (Bachelor of Sacred Theology) and M.A. in Spiritual Theology from the Angelicum in 2003. He was ordained a priest on June 7, 2003, and went on to serve as Parochial Vicar at Holy Spirit, then here at St. Raymond of Peñafort (2007-2008), St. Rita and St. James in Falls Church. In 2016 he was appointed Parochial Administrator of Our Lady of the Valley parish in Luray, where he became Pastor in 2017. Since 2019 he has been studying canon law at Catholic University of America while living at St. Charles rectory in Arlington. He finished his studies just last week and will be awarded his Licentiate degree (*Juris Canonici Licentiata* - "JCL") in the next few weeks. (A Licentiate is a post-master's pre-doctorate academic degree).

It's also notable that while in Rome he took a year-long break from studies to serve as Deacon at St. Michael's under Fr. Daly, where our paths crossed for a few weeks as I began my tour with Fr. Daly (as Parochial Vicar) as Deacon Horkan was finishing his.

**Speaking of Fr. Daly.** Fr. Daly wants me to emphatically express his sincere and profound gratefulness for all of you who signed his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday card (or sent personal cards) and offered Masses for him. He told me that when I handed him the card in person, then called me twice to remind me. I know Fr. Daly pretty well, and believe me when I say I know he was very deeply moved.

**Great News on Priestly Vocations.** This week parishioner Nick Buckner, son of parishioners Eric and Christine Buckner, entered the Novitiate of the Dominican Order, St. Joseph Province, to begin the road to priestly ordination. He will begin his formation in Cincinnati, and then move to the Dominican House of Studies in Washington DC next year. The Dominicans of the St. Joseph Province (headquartered in DC) are an excellent group of priests. I'm very happy for Nick and his parents, and I'm sure you will join me in praying for him as he begins this very challenging formation program.

**Homeschooling Doubles in U.S.!** Did you see the article in the Washington Times last week? Here is an excerpt:

*"Although the pandemic disrupted family life across the U.S. since taking hold in spring 2020, some parents are grateful for one consequence: They're now opting to homeschool their*

*children, even as schools plan to resume in-person classes.*

*"The specific reasons vary widely. Some families who spoke with The Associated Press have children with special educational needs; others seek a faith-based curriculum or say their local schools are flawed. The common denominator: They tried homeschooling on what they thought was a temporary basis and found it beneficial to their children.*

*"That's one of the silver linings of the pandemic - I don't think we would have chosen to homeschool otherwise," said Danielle King of Randolph, Vermont, whose 7-year-old daughter Zoë thrived with the flexible, one-on-one instruction. Her curriculum has included literature, anatomy, even archaeology, enlivened by outdoor excursions to search for fossils.*

*"The surge has been confirmed by the U.S. Census Bureau, which reported in March that the rate of households homeschooling their children rose to 11% by September 2020, more than doubling from 5.4% just six months earlier.*

*"Black households saw the largest jump; their homeschooling rate rose from 3.3% in the spring of 2020 to 16.1% in the fall.*

*"The parents in one of those households, Arlena and Robert Brown of Austin, Texas, had three children in elementary school when the pandemic took hold. After experimenting with virtual learning, the couple opted to try homeschooling with a Catholic-oriented curriculum provided by Seton Home Study School, which serves about 16,000 students nationwide.*

*"The Browns plan to continue homeschooling for the coming year, grateful that they can tailor the curriculum to fit their children's distinctive needs. Jacoby, 11, has been diagnosed with narcolepsy and sometimes needs naps during the day; Riley, 10, has tested as academically gifted; Felicity, 9, has a learning disability.*

*"I didn't want my kids to become a statistic and not meet their full potential," said Robert Brown, a former teacher who now does consulting. "And we wanted them to have very solid understanding of their faith."...*

*"Heather Pray of Phoenix, Maryland, says homeschooling has been a major success for her 7-year-old son, Jackson, who has autism. The family made the switch because Jackson was struggling with the virtual learning that his school provided during the pandemic.*

*"My son did great (with homeschooling), even with just two hours of schoolwork a day," Pray said. "I got him into piano lessons, taught him to read."..."I had no idea how this was going to go - I just dove in headfirst," said Pray. "I felt God was holding my hand."*

*"The Gonzalez family from Appomattox, Virginia - who are devout Catholics - opted to homeschool their three sons, ages 9, 13 and 15, after their Catholic school in Lynchburg closed in 2020 due to falling enrollment.*

*"They're using the Catholic-focused curriculum from Seton Home Study School, which Jennifer Gonzalez, the boys' mom, described as rigorous but well-organized. "My kids have just excelled," she said. "We're able to be home and be together."*

**Parents, Please Consider Homeschooling.** Our government-run "public schools" are so problematic, a profound threat to our children's well-being. Parents should consider Homeschooling as an excellent alternative. There are lots and lots of resources available to help you, academically and socially. Plus, **St. Raymond's offers scholarships** to help defray the direct expenses involved. Also, our **parish Homeschool group** (78 families with 317 children) has lots of social activities and can give you lots of advice on how to get started and go forward. Please contact them at [straymondhsg@gmail.com](mailto:straymondhsg@gmail.com), or contact the parish office and we'll help you get in touch. Their website is [https://www.homeschool-life.com/1240/index\\_public](https://www.homeschool-life.com/1240/index_public).

**Oremus pro invicem, Fr. De Celles**



**MASS INTENTIONS****Monday, August 2nd**

8:30 am Jennifer Anezin

**Tuesday, August 3rd**

8:30 am Dominic Bogdan

**Wednesday, August 4th**8:30 am Robert &  
Christine (+) Pettiti**Thursday, August 5th**

8:30 am Barbara De Celles +

**Friday, August 6th**

8:30 am Carl Stakey +

**Masses to be said Privately**

Aug. 4 Priests &amp; Religious

**Saturday, August 7th**

9:00 am Robert LeRosen +

**Vigil Mass**5:00 pm Fr. De Celles  
Irene Krosnick +**Sunday, August 8th**

7:00 am Fr. Rippy

Bernie Crum +

9:00 am Fr. De Celles  
Parishioners11:00 am Fr. De Celles  
Harriet Shealy +

1:00 pm Fr. Horkan

Robert &amp; Beverly Ward

**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.**

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

Patricia Del Buono  
Michael  
Malachowski  
Juanita Boarman  
John Florio  
Debra Henkel  
Daniel Moore  
Maria Daugherty  
Lauren Hornsby  
Gaudencio Dizon  
Antoinette Baptist

Paul Haynes  
Dwayne Taylor  
Bernadette  
D'Agostino  
Christopher Quan  
Ted Tolpa  
Nena Brennan  
Donald Hale  
Christina Cautero  
Serrin Foster  
Bobbie Wiggins  
Robert Spengler

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

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

Monday - Friday Daily Mass at 8:30 am

Saturday at 9:00 am

Sunday Mass at 9:00 am & 11:00 am

**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.

**St. Raymond's has Adoration every Wednesday and Friday!** Would you like to spend an hour in silent prayer and reflection with our Lord during exposition of the Blessed Sacrament? We are in need of weekly adorers **especially at 12:00 pm, and 6:00 pm on Wednesday, and 12:00 pm and 2:00 pm on Friday.** We also need volunteers to be on our substitute list. If you are interested in Wednesdays, please call Leslie Schratz at 703-569-1940 or email [spoiledk9s@verizon.net](mailto:spoiledk9s@verizon.net). If you are interested in Fridays, please call Virginia Osella at 703-440-0535 or email [virginia.osella@straymonds.org](mailto:virginia.osella@straymonds.org). **Drop-ins are always welcome!**

**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.

**Luminaries of Holy Mary:** Come join us on August 7th 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 on Saturday, Aug. 7th. For more information, call Dave Wilson, 703-966-5327.

**Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church**

<b>Aug 1—12</b>	<b>Back to School Sock &amp; Underwear Drive</b>
<b>August 2</b>	<b>Legion of Mary - 5:00 pm</b>
<b>August 4</b>	<b>Adoration</b>
<b>August 5</b>	<b>Bridge Club -12:00 pm</b>
<b>August 6</b>	<b>No Adoration this Friday</b>
<b>August 7</b>	<b>Men's Prayer Group - 7:30 am</b>
<b>August 7</b>	<b>Luminaries of Mary -9:00 am</b>
<b>August 29</b>	<b>Parish Picnic</b>
<b>Sept. 18</b>	<b>Speaker -Fr. Tad Pacholczyk</b>

**Welcome to Fr. Edward Horkan!**

**Though not assigned to our parish, he is now in residence at St. Raymond's and will be helping with our Masses. His assistance will be greatly appreciated.**

**PARISH PICNIC RETURNS! - Sunday, August 29th (2:00pm - 5:00pm)** Come enjoy the Annual Parish Picnic with your fellow parishioners. Food and Fun for All Ages! We are need of volunteers to help with set up, cooking, games, clean up and more. Call the parish office 703-440-0535 for more information or to volunteer.

**Back to School Sock & Underwear Drive:** The St. Martin de Porres Committee is again sponsoring a "Back to School" drive for students in the Springfield area. We will be accepting donations of NEW Socks and Underwear for school aged children (age 5-17). A collection box will be in the Narthex from August 1<sup>st</sup> through August 12<sup>th</sup>. For health code reasons we can only accept NEW items. Items requested are:

Boys: Socks, Undershirts, Briefs & Boxers

Girls: Socks, Tights, Undershirts, Camisoles & Briefs

Thank you for your continued support!



**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 Larry Saenz (703-832-1042) or go

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

St. John Bosco Council #12846 Knights of Columbus: Did you know? The Knights of Columbus manages 4 committee programs. Faith, Life, Family and Community. Each committee lead runs several important programs. For example, the Knights will have a fraternal outing at the Fredericksburg Nationals park soon. This program would fall under the Family program.

**Altar Server Training:** St Raymond's Parish has a very active Altar Server program. We invite all young men of the Parish to consider becoming an Altar Server. Young men between the ages of 9 and 18, who have received their First Communion are eligible. This is your opportunity to help assist the priest at Mass. Training will be provided. Please contact the Parish Office 703-440-0535 to sign up.

**Book Club News:** We are pleased to announce that the parish Book Club will once again be meeting face-to-face, in person, in the parish Library for the 2021-2022 year. Our first meeting will be on Friday, September 10, at 10 AM. We will be discussing the "Consecration to St Joseph: The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father" by Fr Donald Calloway. The schedule for the full year can be found on the parish website: <https://straymonds.org/ministries-and-groups/book-club/>. New members are welcome. If you have questions, please contact Jim Mault at [bookclub@straymonds.org](mailto:bookclub@straymonds.org).

**Virtus Seminar at St. Raymond's:** There is a Virtus Seminar scheduled at St. Raymond's on Thursday, October 7th from 6:00pm to 10:00pm. Attending a Virtus Seminar is required (in addition to a background check) for anyone who has substantial contact with youth as part of their volunteer activities at St. Raymond. Attending a Virtus Seminar is required only once in a lifetime. You can register for the Virtus Seminar at [virtusonline.org](http://virtusonline.org). Any questions, contact Vince Drouillard at 703-440-0537.

**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). **This year the need for food is greater than ever. Please be generous.**

**Celebrating A Silver or Golden Wedding Anniversary This Year?** Were you married in 1971 or 1996? Then join Bishop Michael F. Burbidge for the 2021 Mass for Jubilarians to be celebrated on Sunday, October 17th at 3:00 pm at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Arlington, Va. Contact the parish office to register no later than October 1st. For more info, visit [www.arlingtondiocese.org/MJM](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/MJM).

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

Pro-abortion advocates may clamor (politely or otherwise): **"Pro-choice!"** Well, the calm and charitable response is that we certainly support a woman's right to choose many moral goods in her life ... her own doctor, husband, job, place of residence, religion- to name a few. But some choices are wrong for anyone to make, like killing innocent human beings simply because they are somehow in the way. The fact that human beings before birth cannot in any way defend themselves should cement our will to protect, not destroy them. ***No, we shouldn't be allowed to choose to kill innocent and defenseless members of the human family.***

Join **Terry Beatley on Tuesdays** at 7pm as she explains organized efforts to destroy America's historical protection of the unborn child by undermining the Catholic Church, intimidating bishops and manipulating Catholic Voters. Tune in to the live Zoom call here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87395576329>. **More info, [Hosea4you.org](http://Hosea4you.org).**

**Please see the parish website for info regarding COVID-19 Vaccines and their relation to aborted fetal cell lines. You must speak up! Sample letter to pharmaceutical companies urging ethical practices available in the narthex and on the parish website.**

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



**A Best Choice Mobile Ultrasound & Pregnancy Resource Center is praying for new wheels.** Might your generosity be an answer to those prayers? Visit [abestchoice.us](http://abestchoice.us) for more information.

**Natural Family Planning:** *A gift to your marriage.* [ccli.org](http://ccli.org)

**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.

**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

### Glory Story, Prayer Request & Call to Action/Volunteer:

I have a huge glory story to share with you all...and with it, a plea for prayers and a call to action. **All praise be to God for the work He is doing in the hearts of our young people! Not only is God moving, but our youth are responding!** I cannot tell you how humbled I am to be able to partake in and witness the faith journeys of our teens and watch as their lives are transformed right before my eyes. It is so beautiful, so edifying and uplifting. Did you know that over the course of this past year, our Sunday night high school youth group more than doubled in size? This past year we also started a Sunday afternoon junior high youth group, which 20-30 youth came to on a consistent basis, as well as a high school girls group which had almost 20 girls at its last meeting! And just these past two weeks we have had 20+ teens respond to the daily Mass challenge! I could go on, but I think you get the point. The Holy Spirit is alive and well! That being said, we need you. We need prayer warriors, people willing to pray daily for our youth & their families as well as our leaders & their families. We need your prayers to back us up spiritually, because the closer we get to God, the more the devil tries to interfere. Prayer is the backbone of youth ministry. It is the backbone of all of our lives, but as the director of the Youth Apostolate, I am putting out a **call for an army of prayer warriors**, because I know we need it. And finally...a call to action. I will write more about this next week, but the long and short of it is that with the increase in our #s, we are in need of more volunteers to serve our youth, in various capacities. So here is **the call to action for this week:** In prayer this week, ask the Holy Spirit for a heart open to His promptings. Ask Him to take away any fears, busyness, doubts, or anything that might get in the way of you hearing Him, and more importantly, anything that might get in the way of you responding with a wholehearted, "Here I am Lord, send me" if He is indeed calling.

### Junior High & High School Sunday Night Youth Groups!

#### All NEW TIMES for 2021-2022!

We have a pretty exciting change in our schedule for this year; our CCD start time is moving back a little bit, which will allow us a full hour & a half for both junior high and high school youth groups! As a reminder, we HIGHLY encourage everyone to attend both youth group & CCD! No fee for HS CCD & no homework or tests either! Remember, learning about our faith is a life-long process. It does not end after Confirmation. We should all continue to seek out opportunities to learn more about our faith throughout our entire lives. AND at the same time, it is super important to have friends who share your values and beliefs, with whom you can form life-long friendships and grow in the Faith ...thus youth group! **Register for CCD at <https://bit.ly/CCDforMe>**

Here are the times for this coming school year, which starts Sunday, September 12th:

4-5:30pm Junior High Youth Group (snacks served)

5:30-7pm 1st-12th Grade CCD

7-8:30pm High School Youth Group (dinner served)

### Volunteer to help with Sunday Night Jr. High and/or High School Youth Group!

Do you have a gift in working with teens? Maybe you do and you don't even know it yet! Take it to prayer. Our teens are in need of folks to help lead them to Christ via their example, witness, time and relational ministry, especially on Sunday nights. (See above for times). Ask God if He is calling you...and if He says yes, or maybe...or if you ask and can't hear His answer...contact Jeanne for more info.

**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

### It's time to register for the 2021-2022 Religious Education

**year!** The bright yellow registration forms are in the Narthex of the church, in the Parish Office or outside the Religious Education Office. Online registration is available on the parish website. **Class enrollment is on a first come, first served basis, so register early to get the session you want.**

### We have classes for high school students on Sunday (6:30-8

**p.m.).** The goal of the high school program is to help our young people mature in their faith and to **equip them to meet challenges which they will face in the culture in which we live.** Our high school team of teachers is top notch and there is no fee to participate in the program.

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

**Attention volunteers for the 2021-2022 academic year:** There is a training session scheduled for August 28th - **ALL VOLUNTEERS are required to attend.**

**2021-2022 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 yellow volunteer registration form, found in the same places as the student registration forms, and return it to the Religious Education Office. **We are in need of the following:**

### SUNDAY (5:30-7:00 p.m.)

Grade 4 Teacher

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

Grade K Assistant Teacher

High school aide

Grade 1 Teacher

Grade 6 Teacher

Grade 7 Teacher

Assistant Teacher

Grade 8 Teacher

Assistant Teacher

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

Grade 7 Teacher

Grade 8 Teacher

RCIC Teacher (sacrament preparation)

**PLEASE NOTE:** If we are unable to fill teacher and assistant teacher vacancies, we will cancel the class and move the students to another day.

**Bridge Club:** We will play Bridge every Thursday at 12 noon. New members welcome. Contact Lois Kotlowski 703-455-6567 or James Kolakoski 703-455-3009.

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



## Church Persecuted

Five years ago, an 85-year-old French priest, Father Jacques Hamel, made his way to the local parish church in rural France, to offer Mass as he had done so many times in his 58 years as a priest. During his priestly days, secularism had infiltrated the Church with many priests of his generation abandoning the priesthood. Sunday Mass attendance was but a mere fraction of what it had been previously. Regardless, he served the souls under his care, parish to parish, year after year. That day would be different for him.

Father Hamel took his place in the book of martyrs of the Church. During Mass, two men entered the church yelling “*Allāhu Akbar*” – a battle cry of Islam. The two assassins were members of the terrorist organization, *Daesh*, or the Islamic State. They took the priest hostage. After recording themselves making propaganda proclamations, they forced Father to the foot of the altar where they killed him. The only reason for the killing was that he was a Catholic priest.

Throughout his life, while others abandoned the Catholic faith and the Christian heritage by which they were raised, Father Hamel’s faith marched on. In the face of irrational rage, he did not cower in fear, but boldly understood the evil at hand. His dying words were, “*Begone, Satan!*”

*Catholic World Report, 7/26/21.*

**Legion of Mary:** The Legion of Mary weekly meeting is held on Monday afternoons at 5:00 pm in the Maurer Room. 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).

**Pilgrim Virgin Statue / Sacred Heart Home Enthronement:** The Legion of Mary will once again be bringing the Pilgrim Virgin statue to parishioner homes. You can sign up by contacting Judy Mayer at [jmayer9014@aol.com](mailto:jmayer9014@aol.com).

## FORMED<sup>®</sup> Get In-Formed!

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**Scholarships to Catholic Schools.** St. Raymond’s will again offer a **one-time \$2,000 scholarship** for each parish child who is **switching from public school (k-12) to Catholic school this year**. Fr. De Celles has also decided to **raise the amount of the scholarship** we have available to **all qualified parishioners** who attend Catholic grade school from \$500 to **\$1,000** and Catholic high school from \$1,000 to **\$2,000**. This amount is renewable every year and is subject only to minimal qualification terms. You need to be a parishioner and send a request for the scholarship to Fr. De Celles. Also, additional financial aid is available if a family truly can’t afford Catholic school, even with the above scholarships. These decisions are made on a case by case basis.

**As you are traveling this summer you can find a Mass near your destination by going to [Masstimes.org](http://Masstimes.org). Also, please remember that our parish expenses continue while you are away.**

**Now that the pandemic is over, please review your weekly donations. Your donations may be mailed, dropped off at the parish office, or given online through Faith Direct. 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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