



## 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

**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

**GUARDIAN ANGELS.** Yesterday, Saturday, October 2, was the feast of the Guardian Angels. It is the infallible Doctrine of the Church, revealed repeatedly in Scripture, that each of us has our own Guardian Angel who cares for us and protects us. What a great thing! Imagine, everywhere you go, you have a heavenly bodyguard, a friend, a servant, who is caring for you and trying to get you to heaven.

So you should pray to your Guardian Angel—they love you, and they want to help you, why would you ignore them? Every one of us should pray this ancient prayer, or something similar every single day.

### *Angele Dei*

*("Angel of God" or "Prayer to Your Guardian Angel")*

*Angel of God, my guardian dear,  
to whom God's love commits me here,  
ever this day, be at my side,  
to light and to guard,  
to rule and to guide. Amen.*

**POLITICS, NO. LIBERTY AND MORALITY, YES.** Sometimes people will accuse me of preaching in support of issues that are merely political and partisan, and not "Catholic." That I cross the line between religion and politics. Just to be clear: I do my very best to stay away from publicly taking any political position that I believe is contrary to the Church, or preaching anything that is not directly related to the Church's teaching. While I sometimes will give my prudential pastoral opinion, I try to only do so when I believe it is truly important to guide you in the way of the Lord Jesus and His Church. Pray that I will always know God's will in my preaching and writing.

**Respect Life.** Today is "Respect Life Sunday," beginning "Respect Life Month," in which the American Bishops call on us to remember that thousands of innocent American babies are killed every day by abortions, over 1 million a year, for a total of 60 million dead since 1973. How can this happen in America, to innocent babies? And how can we vote for political leaders who don't "get" this?

But in this year's election (November 2, 2021) for Governor of Virginia, one candidate supports the most basic human right, the right to life, and the other opposes it. Consider these quotes from the September 16<sup>th</sup> gubernatorial debate:

Glenn Youngkin (Republican): "As I have said, I'm **pro-life**."

Terry McAuliffe (Democrat): "I'll be *very clear*. ...I believe a woman ought to make a decision about Her own reproductive rights. And I will support those and I was *a brick wall*. While I was governor, **I vetoed all the bills that he would have proposed that ban abortion** and defund Planned Parenthood."

**Parental Rights in Education.** It is the clear, universal and ancient Doctrine of the Church, that parents are the primary educators of their children and have primary rights in that regard. Consider:

Second Vatican Council ("Vatican II"), *Gravissimum Educationis*, 3: "Since parents have given children their life, they are bound by the most serious obligation to educate their offspring and therefore must be recognized as the primary and principal educators."

Catechism of the Catholic Church: "2221 The right and the duty of parents to educate their children are primordial and inalienable." "2223 Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children." "2229 As those first responsible for

the education of their children, parents have the right to choose a school for them which corresponds to their own convictions. This right is fundamental....Public authorities have the duty of guaranteeing this parental right and of ensuring the concrete conditions for its exercise."

Code of Virginia: § 1-240.1. "Rights of parents. A parent has a fundamental right to make decisions concerning the upbringing, education, and care of the parent's child."

Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 26.1: "Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children."

But in this year's election for Governor of Virginia one candidate supports this basic human right, and the other opposes it. Consider these quotes from last week's gubernatorial debate:

Glenn Youngkin (Republican): "I believe parents should be in charge of their kids' education."

Terry McAuliffe (Democrat): "**I don't think parents should be telling schools what they should teach.**"

Shame on Terry McAuliffe. How can a Catholic, much less anyone who supports basic human rights, vote for him?

**True and Amazing Story.** Many years ago a Secret Service agent told me the following story. He was there, he saw it. The story has been recently making the rounds on the internet, so I will relate it as it was told to me by this very credible eyewitness.

On October 8, 1995, John Paul II visited Baltimore. When he arrived he told his planners arrange for him to meet briefly with all the seminarians who had come to town for his morning Mass at Camden Yards. It was decided that this would take place in the evening at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, so the Secret Service, who had been tasked with handling Papal security on the visit, sent a team to secure the seminary. Part of this involved bringing in a dog to search not only for explosives but for people—the dog was specially trained, and was often used in searching for cadavers in explosions, etc.

Long story short, when the dog searched the seminary chapel, which they knew the Holy Father would visit, things were uneventful until suddenly the dog suddenly ran to the side chapel, and started barking and going nuts—its usual reaction when it discovered a human body.

And what had he discovered? This side chapel was where the Tabernacle was kept, and apparently there was a live human body hiding in the tiny Tabernacle.

Two years later, eyewitness-Secret Service agent became a Catholic and a devout believer in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. True story.

As an aside, I was one of the hundreds of seminarians gathered from all over the East Coast in front of St. Mary's that evening. I remember how the Sainly Pope arrived in his helicopter, and went directly into the that chapel to pray before that same tabernacle, and then came outside again and spoke with us. And how he led us (well, at least the seminarians from Mt. St. Mary's and St. Charles) in singing the Salve Regina. It was a great evening.

**Fr. Daly.** I spoke to Fr. Daly this week. He's out of the hospital and rehab, back to his apartment. He's still weak and having a hard time walking, and needs a walker or wheelchair, but otherwise he's as well as can be expected. He thanks us for all our prayers and asks that we keep them coming. He also hopes to soon take me up on my invitation to return to the parish to at least concelebrate Mass with me. God bless him!

*Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles*



**MASS INTENTIONS****Monday, Oct. 4th**

6:30 am Fr. Jerome Daly  
8:30 am Kay Minor Swisher +

**Tuesday, Oct. 5th**

6:30 am Fr. Jerome Daly  
8:30 am Carolyn Pauli

**Wednesday, Oct. 6th**

6:30 am Fr. Jerome Daly  
8:30 am Mark McMomas

**Thursday, Oct. 7th**

6:30 am Fr. Jerome Daly  
8:30 am John League

**Friday, Oct. 8th**

6:30 am Fr. Jerome Daly  
8:30 am Isabel Spinelli

**Saturday, Oct. 9th**

9:00 am Vince & Nelly  
Drouillard

**Vigil Mass**

5:00 pm  
Mike Krosnick +

**Sunday, Oct. 10th**

7:00 am  
Joseph Healy Sr. +  
9:00 am  
Parishioners  
11:00 am  
Christopher Anezin  
1:00 pm  
Jonathan & Kara Perricone

**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.**

**Colleen McFadden**

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

Glenn Bliss	Michael	Ted Tolpa
Tom Dietz	Malachowski	Nena Brennan
Michael O'Neill	John Florio	Christina Cautero
Cindy Laird	Debra Henkel	Serrin Foster
Patricia Lewis	Daniel Moore	Fr. Jerry Daly
Barbara McGinn	Lauren Hornsby	Danielle Matava
Mai Pham	Gaudencio Dizon	Regina Chopra
Joan Opiela	Antoinette Baptist	Helen Stephens
Leonora Ramos	Paul Haynes	Helen Estabrooks
Jason Saenz	Dwayne Taylor	Allison Harper
Phyllis Zitnik	Bernadette	Maria Daugherty
Patricia Del Buono	D'Agostino	Tom Swengros
Juanita Boarman	Christopher Quan	

**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

**Book Club News:** We are pleased to announce that the parish Book Club is once again meeting face-to-face, in person, in the parish Library for the 2021-2022 year. Our next meeting will be on Friday, October 8, at 10 AM. We will be discussing **"Columbus and the Crisis of the West"** by Robert Royal. 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).

**Gather, Pro-life Prayer Warriors!** This weekend is the **34th annual Life Chain**: Sunday Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> from 2:30-3:30. Park at Key Middle School 6402 Franconia Rd, Springfield. Join others all across the nation for this annual peaceful prayerful witness. Non-graphic signs provided. Bring a friend! For more info, contact Liz Hildebrand at [hildebrandseven@gmail.com](mailto:hildebrandseven@gmail.com) or visit [lifechain.org](http://lifechain.org).

**FEAR NOT, STAND FIRM,  
AND SEE THE SALVATION OF THE LORD**

**Gentlemen:** The cultural chaos, deep political divisions and turmoil over the pandemic in our country continue to increase, presenting a major spiritual challenge for all of us. What is being asked of faithful Catholic men in this time of trial? **The 23rd Annual Christ the King Men's Day of Recollection, directed by The Very Reverend Paul D. Scalia**, will be held on Sat. Nov. 6 from 9:15am--1:15pm at St. Raymond of Peñafort Catholic Church, 8750 Pohick Rd., Springfield VA 22153. There is no charge for this event, **but you must register before Oct. 30 to attend. Donations gratefully accepted. To register go to [www.waywomen.com/mensretreat](http://www.waywomen.com/mensretreat)** For more information, contact Robin Maas at [rmvmaas@gmail.com](mailto:rmvmaas@gmail.com).

**Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church**

- Oct. 2/3 Youth Apostolate Bake Sale after all Masses
- Oct. 3 Donut Sunday
- Oct. 4 Blessing of the Animals 7:00 pm
- Oct. 4 Legion of Mary
- Oct. 4 RCIA Program 7:30 pm
- Oct. 5 Adult Bible Study
- Oct. 6 Adoration
- Oct. 6 Mothers' Group 10:00 am
- Oct. 7 Bridge Club
- Oct. 8 Adoration
- Oct. 8 Book Club
- Oct. 11 Columbus Day Holiday—1 Mass at 10:00 am  
Parish Offices are Closed.  
No CCD Classes Oct. 10-12 for the Holiday
- Oct. 15 EFM (Latin) 7:00 pm
- Oct. 16 Men's Prayer Group - 7:30 am
- Oct. 16 K of C Oktoberfest
- Oct. 28 Religious Freedom Speaker
- Nov. 6 Men's Day of Recollection
- Nov. 6 Luminaries of Mary

**Donut Sunday Returns TODAY (Sunday, October 3)** after the 7:00, 9:00, and 11:00 AM Masses. Stop by the Parish Hall after Mass to enjoy some treats and drinks and meet your fellow parishioners. October's Donut Sunday is hosted by our Pro-Life Group & our Library Volunteers.

**Blessing of the Animals:** In honor of the feast of St. Francis, we will have the annual Blessing of the Animals **Monday, October 4th at 7:00 pm** in front of the rectory.

**We are Looking for Families for our Christmas Giving Tree.** Each year, St. Raymond's "adopts" families who need help with Christmas. If your family, or someone you know could use help providing gifts for their children, please let Kirsti in the parish office know. The information is kept completely confidential! Office phone number is 703-440-0535.



**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. Martin de Porres Committee** - collects **non-perishable** food on an ongoing basis for the Springfield Resource Center, which serves 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.**

**Samaritans need your help!** This wonderful group of volunteers are here to lend a hand in times of trouble by cooking dinners, running errands or even providing transportation to Mass for our fellow parishioners. If you are available to help out, please join our dedicated team. Please contact Vanessa Oswald at 571-271-5498 or by e-mail at [kandvoswald@gmail.com](mailto:kandvoswald@gmail.com). Also, if you were part of our Samaritan team before, please let us know if you wish to continue so we can have an up-to-date list. Thanks!

**Mothers' Group:** Do your young children seem to need a bit more excitement? Are you looking for Catholic friendship with fellow mothers? Come to the moms' meet-up on Wednesday mornings! We alternate between meeting at our church and parks. Email Michelle for more information at [mlcastry@gmail.com](mailto:mlcastry@gmail.com).

**Luminaries of Holy Mary:** Come join us on Nov. 6th to honor the Blessed Mother's request for making the 5 First Saturdays: Mass at 9am, then meet in the **Maurer Room** for Rosary, meditation and Gospel reflection. All are 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. Meetings in the Church will resume October 18th at 4:00 pm.



**The Knights of Columbus, St. John Bosco Council #12846,** will host their annual **Oktoberfest** on Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 to 9:00 P.M. in the Parish Hall.

Tickets will be available in the Narthex after all Masses on the weekends of Oct. 2/3 and Oct. 9/10 for cash and check sales. Proceeds will go to St. Raymond's "Our Lady of Ransom" Scholarship Fund for Catholic Education. The Chairman of this event is Mr. Patrick Franco. Come join in the fun and fellowship of our Catholic community! Additionally, credit/debit card sales are available through this QR code and can be used for advance ticket



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

**OCTOBER IS RESPECT LIFE MONTH**

**The MaRiH Center** is a Pro Life Pregnancy Support Center operating in Alexandria since 1974. Would you like to volunteer? Spanish language skills are most welcome, but not required. Please call 703-370-4774, email [marihcenter@gmail.com](mailto:marihcenter@gmail.com) or visit [marih.org](http://marih.org) for additional info. You'll be glad you did! To help from home... **Material donations of diapers and baby items up to 2T welcomed in the narthex.** Next weekend, **October 9-10 is our support weekend!** God bless you for your generosity!

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.



**Life Chain: TODAY!**  
Sunday Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> from 2:30-3:30. Park at Key Middle School 6402 Franconia Rd, Springfield. Join others all across the nation for this annual peaceful prayerful

witness. Non graphic signs (see examples) provided. Bring a friend!

**Sunday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:45: Diocesan Respect Life Month Mass at St. Timothy Parish** in Chantilly. Bishop Burbidge will be the main celebrant and homilist.

**ROSARY COAST TO COAST. Sunday October 10.** Join Bishop Coffey of the Military Archdiocese for a Eucharistic Procession from St. Peter's to the Mall in front of the US Capitol starting at 2:00 pm. Rosary Rally in front of the US Capitol, 4:00 pm. [rosarycoasttocoast.com](http://rosarycoasttocoast.com).



Join fellow parishioners and others of Good Will to peacefully and prayerfully witness for life. **Our Parish commitment weekend will be October 23-24.** Sign-ups in narthex or on parish website.

**Introducing Olivia!!!** Olivia is the world's most realistic and medically accurate animation of a baby's development in her mother's womb. [babyolivia.com](http://babyolivia.com)

**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

### Bake Sale After All Masses THIS Weekend

The Youth Apostolate's monthly bake sale fundraiser is back! 100% of the proceeds benefit the youth of the parish, helping to cover costs for WorkCamp, Steubenville, weekly youth group meetings and other events. Thank you for your support!



### 2021-2022 Bake Sale Dates:



<b>October 2-3</b>	February 5-6
November 13-14	March 12-13
December 11-12	April 9-10
January 8-9	May 7-8
	June 11-12

### Sun. October 3: Youth Group & CCD (Parish Hall)

**4-5:30pm** Junior High Youth Group (light meal served)

**5:30-7pm** Religious Education/CCD

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

*Make sure you have 2021-2022 YA Info. Sheet & COVID Waiver turned in or brought with you. See yellow box below.*

**It's not too late to sign up for CCD!** <https://bit.ly/CCDforMe>

Our High school CCD program is like none other! Ask anyone who has participated...you'll want to check it out! No cost & no homework either :)

**Pray for our 8th Grade Confirmandi on retreat next Saturday, October 9th!**

### Talitha Koum: High School Girl's Group!

**7-8:30pm Monday, October 4th (Parish Hall/Outside)**

All 9-12th grade girls are invited to join us from 7-8:30pm on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month in the parish hall as we cultivate authentic community, friendships, and space to share our faith, and learn and encourage one another in ways to practically apply the faith to our daily lives. If you have questions or find yourself disagreeing with some teaching of the Church, this group is for you! If you are gung ho about your faith, this group is for you! If you are looking for authentic friendships, a place to search, a place to grow in understanding, a place to practice defending the faith, a place to laugh, to cry, to be authentically you, to have fun...and so much more...come! You are welcome here! Make sure forms (below) are on file.

### Youth Apostolate Participation (Grades 7-12)

#### 2 REQUIRED Forms

**2021-2022 YA Info. Sheet** is to be completed annually for every child **prior** participating in any Youth Apostolate function.

**2021-2022 Youth Ministry COVID Waiver** form is to be signed and turned in for every youth **prior** to participating in any St. Raymond's Youth Ministry activity/event on or off site.

**Forms can be found online at** <http://bit.ly/YAforms>  
Completed forms can be emailed to Jeanne at [youth@straymonds.org](mailto:youth@straymonds.org) or turned in to the main office.

**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

**THANK YOU** to the parents who attended the parent meetings this past week. If you did not attend, please be sure to read the Parent Handbook which was emailed to you on September 8th and let us know if you have any questions.

Also, if you missed the meeting and you have a child preparing to receive a sacrament (grades 2, 7 and 8) please come by the RE office to pick up your folder with important information and forms.

**Planning ahead:** There will be no CCD classes on October 10, 11 or 12 in observance of the Columbus Day holiday - **students and their families are expected to attend the Holy Hour and Rosary later that week:**



**A parish Holy Hour and Rosary is scheduled for Thursday October 14th at 6:45 p.m.** This is a good opportunity for 7th and 8th grade students to earn two Prayer Service Hours!!

### \*\*HELP NEEDED\*\*

**Assistant Teacher for Grade 4 on Sundays (5:30- 7:00 p.m.)**

**Assistant Teacher for Grade 5 on Tuesdays (6-7:30 p.m.)**

If interested, please contact the Religious Education office

**Scholarships to Catholic Schools.** St. Raymond's offers a **one-time \$2,000 scholarship** for each parish child who is **switching from public school (k-12) to Catholic school this year.** All qualified parishioners who attend Catholic grade school can receive an annual scholarship of **\$1,000** and Catholic high school students can receive **\$2,000**. Please send requests for these scholarships or additional financial assistance to Fr. De Celles.

### NEW Inclement Weather Policy

In the event of Weather or Emergency closings, St. Raymond's Parish will **NO LONGER** follow Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) decisions.

In the event of Weather or other Emergency situations, notice of cancellations or closings of parish events and/or facilities will be posted to the parish website. If possible/practical the parish will also send out an email to all parishioners notifying them of the closing/cancellations.

There are only **TWO** exceptions to any closing decisions we make and issue:

**1) Regularly scheduled Masses and Confession will NEVER be cancelled due to inclement Weather.**

**2) Meetings of very small groups that receive the pastor's personal permission, in which case members will be notified of the exception personally by their group leader.**



### Church Persecuted

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that marriage is a sacrament between one man and one woman. To call any other relationship “marriage” is highly disordered. Benet Academy in Lisle, IL recently interviewed a candidate for its lacrosse coaching position, but rescinded the hiring because the candidate was in a same-sex union. “As a Catholic school, we employ individuals whose lives manifest the essential teachings of the Catholic Church in order to provide the education and faith formation of the young people entrusted to our care,” explained a school spokesperson. It was a courageous witness to the Faith on the part of the headmaster and school...until the school board of directors got involved and “buckled under pressure,” forcing the headmaster to hire the individual.

“The board seems to have overruled the headmaster, Stephen Marth, who not only defended the initial rescinding of the coaching offer but [also] scolded the protesting students for waving rainbow flags, which ‘represent an affirmation of a particular lifestyle or life choices that the Church, in her wisdom, does not and cannot condone.’” The school is not a diocesan school, but is owned by the Benedictine order and run by an independent board of directors.

The school has effectively become non-Catholic, and since it has taken a “woke” position about hiring over fidelity to the Catholic Faith, it will be difficult in the future to “defend itself in court by claiming religious freedom to uphold Catholic teaching.”

<https://www.ncregister.com/blog/benet-academy-disastrous-choice>

**Bishop O'Connell High School is hosting an Open House** on Sunday, Oct. 3, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m., where families are invited to learn more about the Catholic high school experience. Find out how the school's Catholic mission is integrated across the curriculum, visit science and engineering labs, meet teachers, administrators and coaches, and chat with current students. For more information, visit [www.bishopoconnell.org](http://www.bishopoconnell.org) or call 703-237-1433. Bishop O'Connell High School is located at 6600 Little Falls Road in Arlington.

## FORMED

### Get In-Formed!

**Thérèse** – A pampered child from a middle-class 19th century French family, Therese Martin journeys to Rome to beg Pope Leo XIII for permission to enter the Carmelite monastery at the unheard-of age of 15. Once admitted she experiences the joys and rigors of monastic life, and makes the surprising yet simple discovery that holiness can be achieved by small acts of love and compassion – a spiritual path she calls her “Little Way.” With a soundtrack composed by a cloistered Carmelite nun, this film is a beautiful retreat into the world of a Saint Therese of Lisieux, an ordinary girl with an extraordinary soul.

Watch now at [www.straymondsformed.org](http://www.straymondsformed.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

*Where the Truth of Catholic teaching takes flesh in the lives of Pre-K - 8th graders and their families.*

What a blessing it is to be learning together!  
Come visit us and see why our students love coming to school.  
Call or email us to arrange a personal tour.  
We are now accepting applications for 2022-23.

<https://angelusacademy.org/admissions-overview/applying/>

**Thank you for your continued prayers and support.**

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

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

**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).

**FAITH DIRECT:** eGiving lets you continue to support St. Raymond's and the ministries you cherish. You can sign up from your computer, smartphone or tablet, and set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift. Recurring gifts sustain our parish throughout the year. You'll provide us with consistent support, even if you're away on a Sunday, so the programs, services, and ministries that mean so much to our community will never miss a beat. Sign up today by visiting [faith.direct/VA64](http://faith.direct/VA64). Thank you for your continued support of our parish family. God Bless You.

### FAITH DIRECT SEPTEMBER 2021 COLLECTION

Offertory	\$ 46,361.00
Family Assistance	\$ 2,637.34
Maintenance Fund	\$ 5,344.34
Our Lady of Ransom Catholic School Scholarship Donation	\$ 3,580.00
Religious Education Collection	\$ 1,284.00
Catholic University	\$ 590.00

### LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Offertory	\$ 13,396.00
Family Assistance	\$ 585.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 774.00
Our Lady of Ransom Catholic School Scholarship Donation	\$14,043.17
Disaster Relief for Hurricane Ida	\$ 2,765.00

The second collection next week is for Porto Charities Special Kids, Special Needs Collection. The funds from this collection support special education programs for God's Special Children. Please be generous.

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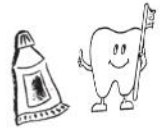


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