



## 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  
Rev. Edward R. Horkan, In Residence  
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

**Parish Finances.** Please find the Finance Report of the fiscal year ended (FYE) June 30, 2021 (6/21), inserted in this bulletin. This year we've included a 3-year comparison, to show the changes from pre-Covid (FYE-6/19) to now.

Operating Income (mainly from offertory and long-term maintenance collections, and other donations) was \$1,911,952, down \$118,427 (or 6%) from FYE-6/20 and down \$345,943 (15%) from FYE-6/19. Operating Expenses were \$1,773,068, down \$168,565 (or 9%) from FYE-6/20 and down \$96,569 (5%) from FYE-6/19. That left us a **Net Operating Income of \$138,884**, up \$50,138 (or 57%) from FYE-6/20 and down \$249,374 (64%) from FYE-6/19.

The decline in Operating Income is almost entirely due to the sharp decline in our offertory collection during the COVID Shutdown, **which has declined 22%** since FYE-6/19.

The decrease in Operating Expenses is primarily due to 1) decline in costs related to slowdown/decrease in parish activities during/post-Covid, and 2) decrease in Diocesan assessments determined as a percentage of offertory income. However, scholarships increased by 100% from FYE-6/19.

Extraordinary Income was all over the place in the 3 years. The Capital campaign income relates to the Altar Rail and Pulpit installation last year, as does most of the Capital improvement expenditures. This year we received a \$228,000 DIAL dividend, as I have previously discussed (see Bulletin of May 2, 2021). This left us with a **Net Surplus (the bottom line) of \$ 326,212**.

On the Balance Sheet side of things, we had Cash of \$226,857 in checking and **\$1,829,347 in savings**, \$ 537,728 of which is "restricted," i.e., dedicated to paying for Long-Term Maintenance or "extraordinary objectives."

We also had \$158,200 in Loans Payable at the end of the fiscal year, which represented a "PPP" Loan from the federal government. The full amount of this loan was forgiven in July 2021.

Please feel free to contact me or Kirsti Tyson in the parish office with any questions about the report.

**"Time for an Exodus from Public Schools?,"** Below is an excerpt from an article of this title published by the Cardinal Newman Society on October 1, 2021. The Authors are **Mary Rice Hasson, JD**, and **Theresa Faman, PhD**. These two brilliant women are both mothers, wives, and experts in studying the malignant ideologies infecting our schools. They have spoken several times in our parish. The Excerpt:

*Laura Morris, a public-school teacher in Loudoun County, Va., was excited about returning to a classroom of "amazing" 5th grade students this fall. Instead, in August she quit her job.*

*In a short, heart-wrenching speech before the county school board that was shared on social media, Morris explained why: the school district's "transgender" policies and "equity" trainings promote "political ideologies that do not square with who I am as a believer in Christ." Her final words—before the school board silenced her microphone—urged "all parents and staff in this county to flood the private schools."*

*In other words, leave public schools. Catholics should listen well.*

*A good education forms the whole person: intellectual, emotional, moral and spiritual. But today's public schools promote a curriculum that is radically antagonistic to Judeo-Christian morality and anthropology. Public schools of past generations were not perfect, but they incorporated an implicitly Judeo-Christian moral viewpoint and vision of the person (anthropology). No more.*

*Current public-school curricula and programs view the person through the lenses of atheism and materialism, often distorted even further by gender ideology. As a result, Catholic children in public school must navigate a school culture hostile to "foundational Catholic beliefs. They face pressure from peers,*

*teachers and administrators to use wrong sex pronouns that affirm a classmate's "gender identity" and to pretend "everything's normal" when a male student who identifies as a "girl," for example, undresses in the female locker room. LGBTQ-inclusive sex education programs break down modesty and function as "how to" instructions for children too young to understand or even legally consent to sexual activity.*

*At the same time, the militantly secular atmosphere within public schools sends the message to Catholic students that their religion has no place in the public square and that they should be ashamed of Catholic moral teachings, which are painted as intolerant and hateful. The Church's beliefs about marriage and gender are described as bigoted, "transphobic," and a form of "cis-heteronormative" oppression. The schools exalt the individual as "self-creator" and define fulfillment in terms of pleasure and self-gratification.*

*The impact is predictable. The Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate reported in 2015 that weekly Mass attendance was only five percent among millennials who attended non-Catholic schools.*

*Unless we take seriously, right now, the need to give every Catholic child a Catholic education, our churches will be nearly empty of young people before the decade is over. And our nation will suffer as well...*

*This really is a watershed moment. Public school parents are shocked at the prospect of daughters changing for gym in the presence of male ("transgender") students, angered by the erosion of athletic opportunities for their daughters, and troubled that teachers encourage impressionable kindergarteners and vulnerable teens to "explore" alternative "gender identities." They are alarmed over school policies that intentionally keep them in the dark about their own child's "gender" confusion and frustrated that they are unable to shield their children from school curricula or programs that will undermine their child's faith. Remote learning during the COVID lockdowns gave many parents an unvarnished look at their children's daily lessons and the "woke" indoctrination embedded within.*

*Many parents today are rightly questioning whether public schools are the right choice for their children. There is no better time for Catholic dioceses to explain why a Catholic education—whether at home or in hybrid, classical, or parish schools—is not only a good option but the best option. The Church must do three things at once:*

- 1. educate parents about the ideological capture of public education and the very real threats that gender ideology and "wokeness" pose to their children's faith and psychological stability;*
- 2. convey the vision of Catholic education (broadly speaking), which offers unparalleled benefits for faith, character-building and educational excellence; and*
- 3. work alongside parents and the larger Catholic community to ensure that financial costs will never prevent a Catholic child from receiving a Catholic education, not only by reducing costs in parochial schools but also by promoting less costly options.*

*These steps require a radical shift in mindset not only among parents but also among priests and diocesan personnel, who have long regarded public education as a lesser but benign alternative. Perhaps that was true in the past; it is not true today....*

*Now, more than ever, Catholic parents, clergy, parishes and philanthropists need to prioritize Catholic education. Like Laura Morris, we must be unafraid to say that today's public schools promote "political ideologies do not square with who [we are] as believer[s] in Christ." Our children deserve better, and there are no do-overs on childhood. Let's give our kids the education they need not only for the here and now, but for eternal life.*

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



**MASS INTENTIONS****Monday, Oct. 18th**

6:30 am Fr. Jerome Daly  
8:30 am James Tobias +

**Tuesday, Oct. 19th**

6:30 am Fr. Jerome Daly  
8:30 am Joseph A. Brooks +

**Wednesday, Oct. 20th**

6:30 am Fr. Jerome Daly  
8:30 am Pedro Ortiz +

**Thursday, Oct. 21st**

6:30 am Fr. Jerome Daly  
8:30 am Stella Hatcher

**Friday, Oct. 22nd**

6:30 am Fr. Jerome Daly  
8:30 am Sr. Marie Bernadette  
Parman

**Private Masses**

Oct. 24 Julian Jensen +

**Saturday, Oct. 23rd**

9:00 am Arlo Maddox Le +

**Vigil Mass**

5:00 pm Fr. Rippy  
Eric & Stacy Fleming

**Sunday, Oct. 24th**

7:00 am Fr. Rippy  
RE Students & their families  
9:00 am Fr. Horkan  
Parishioners  
11:00 am Fr. De Celles  
Eduardo Cascarro +  
1:00 pm Fr. De Celles  
Family of Jesus Prayer Group

**Please pray for our parishioners serving in Combat Zones and their families.** If you have a relative serving in harm's way and would like to have his/her name included in our prayer list, please contact the parish office. **Also, please be sure to let us know when they return home.**

**Colleen McFadden**

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

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| Glenn Bliss<br>Tom Dietz<br>Michael O'Neill<br>Cindy Laird<br>Patricia Lewis<br>Barbara McGinn<br>Mai Pham<br>Joan Opiela<br>Leonora Ramos<br>Jason Saenz<br>Phyllis Zitnik<br>Patricia Del Buono<br>Juanita Boarman | Michael<br>Malachowski<br>John Florio<br>Debra Henkel<br>Daniel Moore<br>Lauren Hornsby<br>Gaudencio Dizon<br>Antoinette Baptist<br>Paul Haynes<br>Dwayne Taylor<br>Bernadette<br>D'Agostino<br>Christopher Quan | Ted Tolpa<br>Nena Brennan<br>Serrin Foster<br>Fr. Jerry Daly<br>Helen Estabrooks<br>Maria Daugherty<br>Tom Swengros<br>Mary Ellen<br>Enzweiler<br>Renee LeBoeuf<br>David Kemp<br>Victoria Gibbons |
|--|--|---|

**Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church**

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| Oct. 18  | Family of Jesus Prayer Group 4:00 pm   |
| Oct. 28  | Religious Freedom Speakers Panel   |
| Nov. 1   | All Saints Day Masses at 6:30 am, 8:30 am & 7:00 pm (Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year) |
| Nov. 2   | Masses for All Souls Day at 6:30 am, 8:30am & 7:00 pm  |
| Nov. 2-4 | All Souls Triduum  |
| Nov. 5   | EFM (Latin) 7:00 pm  |
| Nov. 6   | Men's Day of Recollection  |
| Nov. 6   | Men's Prayer Group   |
| Nov. 6   | Luminaries of Mary   |
| Nov. 10  | Special Pro-Life Mass at 7:00 pm for Our Deceased Children                                   |
| Nov. 12  | Catholic Book Club   |

**St. Raymond's Speakers Series** presents a Panel Forum with Cathy Ruse, Maria Keffler & the Education Program Manager from the Virginia Project. Their talks will be on Protecting our Children from Government (aka Public) Schools. Thursday October 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm in our Parish Hall. Any questions please contact the parish office at 703-440-0535 or [office@straymonds.org](mailto:office@straymonds.org)

**St. Raymond's Christ House Committee** is providing a meal for Christ House this month on Friday, October 29. Volunteers are needed to help with the preparation and/or delivery of food so those interested in helping should contact us at: [christhousecommittee@straymonds.org](mailto:christhousecommittee@straymonds.org). Help is always needed for this important ministry.

**Book Club News:** Our next meeting will be on Friday, November 12 at 10 AM in the Parish Library. We will be discussing *Things Worth Dying for: Thoughts on a Life Worth Living* by Archbishop Charles Chaput (272 pgs.) 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).

**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

**ALL SOULS DAY, Nov. 2nd:** St. Raymond's will again be offering a Triduum of Masses for All Souls. The Masses will be said on Nov. 2nd, Nov. 3rd and Nov. 4th at 6:30 am. To have your departed loved ones remembered in these Masses, please complete one of the All Souls envelopes in the narthex and place it in the collection basket today or bring it to the parish office.

**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's. 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 [rmvlmaas@gmail.com](mailto:rmvlmaas@gmail.com).

**Men's Prayer Group:** On the first and third Saturdays of each month a group of men meet in the parish hall to pray and read the scriptures. They are neither theologians, philosophers, nor great scholars. Just some guys, coming together to pray, read, and share a simple breakfast. Everyone is welcome. Please join us at 7:30 am on Saturday, Nov. 6th. For more information, call Dave Wilson, 703-966-5327.



**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.**

**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.

**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 [mlcastrv@gmail.com](mailto:mlcastrv@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:** Weekly meetings in the Church will resume Monday, October 18th at 4:00 pm and 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.

**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.

**Baby Items Needed!** -Gabriel Project is helping a mom of twins (boy and girl) due in November! If you are able to help with donating any of the following items needed, please let Beth Berger know ([kmb43@verizon.net](mailto:kmb43@verizon.net))! Car seat, Double crib & mattresses, Pacifiers, Breast pump, Bibs, Nursing covers for breastfeeding, Receiving blankets, Nursing Pillow, Baby bottles, Baby bottle brush, Gift cards for Formula, Wipes, Diapers, Wash cloths, Baby clothing (Day & Night).

**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, not required. Please call 703-370-4774, email [marihcenter@gmail.com](mailto:marihcenter@gmail.com) or visit [marih.org](http://marih.org) for more info. You'll be glad you did! To help from home... **Material donations** **diapers and baby items up to 2T welcomed in the narthex.** Thank you for your continued 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.  
Bring a friend!



Join fellow parishioners and others of Good Will to peacefully and prayerfully witness for life. **Our Parish commitment weekend is Oct 23-24.** Sign-up in the narthex or on our 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.

**2021 DIVINE MERCY CARE GALA.** In support of **Tepeyac Pro Life OB/GYN.** Top of the Town, Arlington. Wednesday, November 10th. **Tickets are limited – buy yours now!** [bit.ly/dmcgala](http://bit.ly/dmcgala) or call 703-934-5552.

**Wednesday November 10th at 7pm. All are welcome to join us for Holy Mass offered for children who have predeceased us.** Kara Palladino will share information regarding the mission of **A MOMS Peace** afterwards in the narthex.

**Has the sorrow of miscarriage or still birth touched your life?** Or perhaps you know someone in this situation. **A Mom's Peace**, A Lay Apostolate for Mothers of Miscarried and Stillborn Souls offers discreet support to families with bereavement, burial and remembrance assistance. For more information visit [amomspeace.org](http://amomspeace.org).

**Give a Gift for Life!** **Gabriel Project** helps pregnant moms welcome their babies. Please consider donating at [www.arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife). For more info, contact them at 1-866-444-3553 or [GabrielProject@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:GabrielProject@arlingtondiocese.org).

## St. Raymond's Youth Apostolate

### Youth Group or CCD this Sunday 10/17

**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 :)

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

**7-8:30pm Monday, October 18 (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.

### 40 Days for Life & Elevation Burger: Oct. 23

All 7-12th Graders are invited to join us to pray and be a Witness to Life outside Falls Church Healthcare Center; followed by lunch at Elevation Burger (paid for by the Youth Apostolate). Permission slips are on the youth bulletin boards by parish entrances and on the website. Compliant adults are needed to help drive/chaperone. Contact Jeanne if you can help. <http://bit.ly/strayforms>

### Jr. High Yard Work Service Day: 9am-1pm Oct. 30

Permission slips are on the youth bulletin boards by parish entrances and on the website. Compliant adults are needed to help drive/chaperone. Contact Jeanne if you can help. Forms are due Oct. 28. <http://bit.ly/strayforms>

### 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.

**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 all the CCD families and members of the parish who attended the Parish Holy Hour and Rosary last Thursday. Please continue to pray for our Religious Education program, our parishioners, our Church and for our country. Be assured of our prayers for all of you.

**Planning ahead: parents please note:** Even though FCPS has student holidays scheduled for November 1-2, **THERE WILL BE CCD classes 10/31 and 11/1-2**

### **\*\*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

**Protecting Our Future: Child Protection & Safety:** The Office of Child Protection & Safety was created to assist all parishes and schools in creating a safe environment where our children are free from sexual abuse, physical abuse and neglect. The office provides various services including child abuse prevention training for employees, volunteers, children and youth and criminal background history investigations for employees and volunteers who work with children. For more information about services provided by the Office of Child Protection & Safety as well as diocesan policy regarding the prevention of child abuse, please visit our website at [www.arlingtondiocese.org](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org).

**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).

## **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

In the 1950 movie, "Cheaper by the Dozen," Frank B. Gilberth, Jr., played by Clifton Webb, reluctantly agrees to conduct a family vote on a pet. He loses. The UN, in their 1994 "Year of the Family" attempts to redefine a family as "building the smallest democracy at the heart of society."

Pope St. John Paul II countered the UN's advertisement with his *Letter to Families*, understanding the family – as a communion of persons — the foundation of society. "The family originates in a marital communion..." "covenant," in which man and woman "give themselves to each other and accept each other" (*Letter to Families*, 7).

As such families bring children into the world. "Parents are the first and most important educators of their own children, and they also possess a fundamental competence in this area. They are educators because they are parents" (*LF*, 16).

They carry out their responsibilities with the support of the Church and the state. "All other participants in the process of education are only able to carry out their responsibilities in the name of parents, with their consent, and to a certain degree, with their authorization" (*LF*, 16).

So it becomes baffling when democratic governor candidate, Terry McAuliffe, in a recent debate said that "I don't think that parents should be telling schools what they should teach."

The family is not the smallest democracy and for that matter neither are the government schools. Schools teach without the consent of the parents and foster division between parents and children. The end result is the government education system's aim to destroy the very foundation of society.

**The House of Mercy (HOM)** is accepting donations of **clothing and small household items that can fit in regular trash bags**. They are also accepting gently used toys and games provided all the parts of the games are included. Halloween and Thanksgiving decorations can be donated from now until December 18 and Christmas decorations can be donated from November 1 until January 22. All donations may be left at St Raymond's (outside the library door inside the church door nearest to the rectory). POC is Jim Mault ([jmault1@cox.net](mailto:jmault1@cox.net)).

## FORMED®

### Get In-Formed!

**St Faustina and the Feast of Divine Mercy** – Summarizing the life and mission of St. Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938), the Secretary and Apostle of Divine Mercy, Fr. Chris goes through the ABCs of Divine Mercy, and then introduces the Divine Mercy devotion. He explains the great Feast of Mercy, Divine Mercy Sunday, as the pinnacle of the Divine Mercy devotion and gives step-by-step instructions on how to receive this Extraordinary Promise offered by Jesus on this one day.

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)

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