



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)

1st and 3rd 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

I'm Back. I had a great vacation in Florida last week. But it's good to be back home. Thanks be to God for my pastorate and St. Raymond's!

Unlike NoVa, the weather in Florida was wonderful. Some days it was 50 degrees warmer, and mostly sunny. It rained one day, but that was during lunch, after we finished golfing. So perfect weather for 4 rounds of golf.

And I played pretty well, especially for being off of golfing for almost 3 months (I don't golf once the winter chill sets in). And one day I actually tied my best score ever, 89, although I thought for a while there I'd have a new record. Still, the 89 was pretty cool. But of course, I credit divine intervention.

We took one day off from golf, and I drove over to St. Augustine to see the site of the first Mass celebrated in what became the United States, on September 8, 1565. A very quiet and prayerful spot, now located on land that is part of the oldest Spanish Mission in the U.S., Mission Nombre de Dios, (The Name of God). The Mission also contains the U.S.'s first shrine to our Lady, and a huge 200-foot steel cross marking the spot of the first Mass.

All in all, an excellent vacation. Now, back to work. But... I think I'll be off again sometime before Lent kicks off...

Speaking of the "First Mass." A lot of folks in this part of the country understandably tend to think of the Church's history in America in terms of the Catholic presence in the 13 British Colonies. But coming from San Antonio, I am keenly aware that while the first Mass in the British Colonies was celebrated in 1634, the first Mass in Texas was celebrated 5 years before that by Spanish missionaries in 1629, and the VERY first Mass in the whole US was celebrated in Florida some 64 years before that, as mentioned above.

So all Catholic Americans should know more about this, especially us, whose patron is a great Spanish saint. This is taken from the website of Mission Nombre de Dios:

"On September 8, 1565, five ships sailed into a small cove on the coastline of what was known to the Spanish as "La Florida." Under the command of General Pedro Menéndez de Aviles, they came to the New World from Spain sent by King Philip II. They arrived in hopes of establishing a colony, securing the land for Spain, and most importantly, to convert the native American Indians to Christianity. Father Francisco López de Mendoza Grajales, recorded the day's events in his diary...

"On Saturday the eighth the General landed with many banners spread, to the sounds of trumpets and the salutes of artillery. As I had gone ashore the evening before, I took a cross and went to meet him, singing the hymn 'Te Deum Laudamus.' The General, followed by all who accompanied him, marched up to the cross, knelt and kissed it. A large number of Indians watched these proceedings and imitated all that they saw done."

"Following Menéndez' veneration of the Cross, thus proclaiming this land in the name of God (Nombre de Dios) Father Lopez celebrated Mass at a rustic altar made of wood. The sky served as the roof for what was the first parish Mass in what is now the United States. It was on this sacred ground that the Spanish settlers would begin devotion to Our Lady of La Leche, Nuestra Señora de La Leche y Buen Parto, Mary

nursing the infant Jesus. In the early 1600s, the Spanish settlers of St. Augustine established the first Shrine to the Blessed Virgin Mary in the United States."

New Governor Comes Through for Parents. Governor Glenn Youngkin didn't waste any time on moving forward to fulfill his campaign promises to parental rights advocates, issuing several excellent Executive Orders on the day of his inauguration, including:

- ending the use of divisive concepts, including Critical Race Theory, in public education.

- allowing parents to make decisions on whether their child wears a mask in school.

- announcing an investigation into wrongdoing in Loudoun County related to the cover-up of a "transgender" boy's (a real boy pretending to be a girl) rape of two girls in two different high school restrooms.

In addition, I'm very delighted to say the Governor appointed my friend and former FCPS Board member **Elizabeth Schultz** as the Commonwealth's Assistant Superintendent of Public Instruction. Elizabeth, a parishioner at St. Andrew's in Clifton, is a prominent and public advocate for parents and children's rights, and an outspoken opponent of Critical Race Theory. She has always been strongly pro-life, pro-family, pro-morality and pro-common sense. She has spoken at St. Raymond's several times, and comes to Mass here frequently. Wow—what an appointment! And more good news: her new boss is Jillian Balow as Superintendent of Public Instruction. Balow served in the same position for the last 7 years in Wyoming (where it is an elected office) and has also been a strong advocate for parental rights and opponents of CRT.

Exciting Announcement. I'm very pleased to invite you and all your friends to a very special evening at St. Raymond's on February 4 at 7pm. The event, co-sponsored by the Diocesan 50th Jubilee Committee, is entitled: **"Pilgrim to the Heavenly City: Walking with Saint Raymond to God through Sacraments, Music, and Sacred Art."**

It will begin with our favorite local Catholic artist **Henry Wingate** giving a presentation on the two murals he painted of Saint Raymond and Our Lady of Ransom for our sanctuary, as well as the role that Sacred Art plays in the life and worship of the Church. Then, we will enjoy a small **concert** by local Catholic professional musicians performing selections from the *Libre Vermell de Montserrat*, a book of pilgrimage songs used during St. Raymond's life in his native Catalan in southwestern Spain.

The talk and concert are free and open to the public. **This is going to be a very memorable event for our parish, so I encourage all of you to come and bring your friends.**

Extraordinary Form Mass. Many of you have been asking me about my reaction to Pope Francis' letter "Traditionis Custodes" (TC) which harshly revokes the generous and just allowances of Pope Benedict XVI's "Summorum Pontificam," practically calling for a wide-suppression of the "Old Mass." However, I am honoring Bishop Burbidge's request to his priests to refrain from commenting on TC until he reaches a decision on how TC will be enacted here. I am hoping this will happen in the next few weeks, as he has indicated to his priests. I pray he listens to the concerns of so many of us who were deeply "confused" by TC. But for now, that is all I will say.

Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles

MASS INTENTIONS**Monday, Jan. 24th**

6:30 am Deceased Members
of the Legion of Mary +
8:30 am Derek & Stephanie
Shickel

Tuesday, Jan. 25th

6:30 am Eileen Kapp +
8:30 am Mahlon Daugherty +

Wednesday, Jan. 26th

6:30 am Edward & Edie Kapp
8:30 am Michael Allman +

Thursday, Jan. 27th

6:30 am Angelina Villareal
8:30 am Ofelia Vitek +

Friday, Jan. 28th

6:30 am John Coyne +
8:30 am Eugene & Rose
Marie Tougas +

Saturday, Jan. 29th

9:00 am Daniel & Emily
Shickel

Vigil Mass

5:00 pm
Jacob Fleming

Sunday, Jan. 30th

7:00 am
Michael Allman +
9:00 am
Parishioners
11:00 am
James Maschoff +
1:00 pm
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	Michael	Christopher Quan
Tom Dietz	Malachowski	Ted Tolpa
Michael O'Neill	John Florio	Nena Brennan
Cindy Laird	Debra Henkel	Serrin Foster
Patricia Lewis	Daniel Moore	Fr. Jerry Daly
Barbara McGinn	Lauren Hornsby	Tom Swengros
Mai Pham	Gaudencio Dizon	Ellie Garcia
Joan Opiela	Antoinette Baptist	Ashley Robinson
Leonora Ramos	Paul Haynes	James Butler
Jason Saenz	Dwayne Taylor	Margaret O'Neill
Phyllis Zitnik	Bernadette	Pat Kolakoski
Patricia Del Buono	D'Agostino	Andy Fuller
Juanita Boarman		

Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church

Jan. 24	Family of Jesus Prayer Group 4:00 pm
Jan. 26	Adoration
Jan. 26	Legion of Mary 6:30 pm in Library
Jan. 28	Adoration
Jan. 29	Knights of Columbus Italian Dinner
Feb. 4	Lecture and Music in Church with Artist Henry Wingate at 7:00 pm
Feb. 5	Luminaries of Mary
Feb. 5	Men's Prayer Group
Feb. 5	First Penance for Second Grade
Feb. 5-6	Youth Apostolate Bake Sale
Feb. 11	Book Club
Feb. 12	WAY Mother/Daughter Retreat
Feb. 26	Women's Pre-Lenten Retreat

**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

Please make note of the new start time for Saturday afternoon Confessions: Moving forward, Confessions are 3:30-5:00pm.

Evening with Henry Wingate, our St. Raymond mural artist, Friday, February 4 at 7-8 pm. *Pilgrim to the Heavenly City: Walking with Saint Raymond to God through Sacraments, Music, and Sacred Art.* Our lives are a pilgrimage to heaven, a journey to the City of God. Join us for an evening of art, music and faith as we reflect on that pilgrimage. Local Catholic artist Henry Wingate will present his new murals of the life of Saint Raymond. Through his art, learn about Saint Raymond as a pilgrim guide in Christ, as well as the role that Sacred Art and the Sacraments play in nourishing us along the way.

Then, enjoy a small concert meant to inspire and draw us into the world of Saint Raymond. Local professional musicians will perform selections from the *Libre Vermell de Montserrat*, a book of pilgrimage songs from Saint Raymond's very own time in his native Catalanian Spain.

No RSVP required. Please bring family and friends.

Book Club: Our next meeting will be on Friday, February 11th at 10 am in the Parish Library. We will be discussing *True Friendship: Where Virtue Becomes Happiness* by John Cuddeback (150 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 or plan to join us for the first time, please contact Jim Mault at bookclub@straymonds.org.

The Knights of Columbus Italian Dinner will take place on Saturday, January 29th, 2022 at 6:30pm in the parish hall. Tickets for the event will be sold after all Masses this weekend, Jan. 22-23. Ticket Prices are \$5.00 for children (5-12), \$15.00 for Adults and \$50.00 for Families.

Knights of Columbus Blood Drive: The St. John Bosco Council Knights of Columbus are co-sponsoring a blood drive on Saturday, February 5, at the Church of the Nativity parish hall from 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Please consider signing up for a 15-minute time slot within that period and giving the gift of life. You may sign up either online at www.inovabloodsaves.org or in the Narthex after Masses this weekend and next.

Save the Date! Women's Retreat on February 26, 2022: The Women's Apostolate to Youth (WAY) will once again host a retreat for the women of the parish, this year on the Saturday before Lent begins. Please mark your calendars and stay tuned for more details.

Valentine's Day Fundraiser. The American Heritage Girls (AHG) Troop VA 0638 will be selling Chocolate & Roses for Valentine's Day February 12 and 13, 2022. Please stop in the Lobby of St. Raymond's after Mass and purchase some delicious Ghirardelli chocolate and roses.



St. John Bosco Council #12846 Knights of Columbus: Are you a man of 17 ½ years or 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 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). The ongoing need for food is greater than ever. Please be generous. **The St. Martin Porres Committee is in need of an additional volunteer to deliver food donations** one to two times per month. For information, call the office.

Family of Jesus Prayer Group: Weekly meetings are in the Church on Mondays at 4:00 pm. If you have any prayer requests, please let us know by emailing Elaine Perricone at jpebtp@verizon.net or by calling the parish office. You may also write down your prayer requests and drop them in the "Prayer Box" on the table in the narthex of the church.

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. 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).

St. Raymond's has Adoration most Wednesdays and Fridays! 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 12:00 pm and 6:00 pm on Wednesdays and at 2:00 pm on Fridays**. 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. If you are interested in Fridays, please call Virginia Osella at 703-440-0535 or email virginia.osella@straymonds.org. **Drop-ins are always welcome!**

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.

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

I came that they might have life. John 10:10

Thank you to all who attended the March for Life or participated in any way to pray for an end to abortion and a return to a respect for the sanctity of human life in our land.
2 Chronicles 7:14

Join fellow constituents in Richmond for the first ever **Defending Life Day**, February 9, 2022. **Advocate for a Pro-Life Virginia.** Details to follow.



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 or visit marih.org for more 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. Our next support weekend is February 12-13. Thank you for your continued generosity! Donation collection spot is now near the elevator.**

Special thanks to those who have been making such beautiful blankets!! Our Wrapped In Love program is up and stitching. Pray for the mothers and babies who will be wrapped in love by your efforts as you create baby blankets for distribution at Pregnancy Care Centers or for use by sidewalk counselors – wherever we find a need. God bless you for your efforts. Blankets may be delivered to the parish office or MaRiH collection box in the narthex. *"For we are God's handiwork."* Eph 2:10

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.

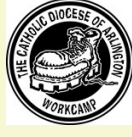
Immediate regret often follows when a woman ingests the 'abortion pill'. If you know someone in this situation, contact abortionpillreversal.com 24/7 helpline: 877-558-0333. **It may not be too late.**

Tepeyac Pro Life OB/GYN: Transforming Hearts Through Healthcare. 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.

St. Raymond's Youth Apostolate

*All are welcome to participate in Youth Apostolate events.
Make sure forms are signed and on file. <http://bit.ly/YAforms>



WorkCamp Registration Deadline Extended to 1/23

Are you a current 9-12th grader who would like to give a week of your summer to make a difference while having fun and growing in faith and fellowship? Check out WorkCamp and consider joining us! More info: <https://bit.ly/workcamp2022>

Youth Group & CCD this Sunday 1/23

4-5:30pm Jr. High Youth Group (light meal served)

5:30-7pm Religious Education/CCD

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

Sons of Thunder: High School Guys' Group

7-8:30pm Tuesday, January 25 (Maurer Room)

Come join the brotherhood! All 9-12th grade guys are invited who want to learn more about their faith, deepen their relationship with Christ, and hang out with other guys in a chill atmosphere. Sons of Thunder meets 7-8:30pm on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of each month in the Maurer Room. Newcomers are always welcome! There will be food!

Friday, January 28

6:30am High School Fri. Morning Mass & Breakfast Club

All high school teens are invited to join us Friday mornings for Mass followed by breakfast with Fr. Horkan in the parish hall. If you RSVP a week ahead, we can coordinate our volunteers to drive you to school. If not, you are welcome to just show up for Mass & have your parent drive you to school after breakfast!

**FEB. 5-6
BAKE SALE**



SIGN UP

Compliant adult needed to man the bake sale table after each Mass. *If we do not have coverage for ALL Masses, we will need to cancel the bake sale, again.* Please consider supporting the youth apostolate with this 20 minute commitment. Sign up at <https://bit.ly/ManTheTable>

Donations of baked goods especially needed this month, as we are unable to have our usual teen bake night this month. Items the teens bake typically account for about 80% of the items we have for sale, which means we are really counting on your baking to help ensure a successful sale this month! Families, teens, bakers of all ages...brownies, breads, cakes, muffins, rice krispie treats, ten cookies or one hundred cookies...anything you can bake, we are happy to take! Sign up at <https://bit.ly/bakeforsale>

Food Contributions Needed & Appreciated!

Can you help contribute food towards our Sunday night high school dinners or our Friday morning Breakfasts? See links below for our needs. Thank you!

<https://bit.ly/FridayBfast> & <https://bit.ly/DinnerDonations>

Jeanne Sause

Director of the Youth Apostolate (Grades 7-12)
youth@straymonds.org Call/Text: 571-334-9890
<https://bit.ly/youthapostolate>

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Parents of Second Grade students: First Penance is scheduled for Saturday, February 5th at 10 a.m.

Please consider bringing the entire family to the 9:00 a.m. Mass to prepare for this wonderful Sacrament of Healing. All second grade students - whether they attend Mass or not - are to gather in the Narthex no later than 9:45 a.m. and should check in with their CCD teacher. Angelus students should check in with their teacher. Home school students and those from other Catholic schools should check in with Mr. Drouillard or Mrs. Salmon. At least one parent should remain at the church; your child may leave after reception of the Sacrament and completion of their penance.

Please contact the Religious Education office if you have any questions.

St. Raymond 2021-22 Snow Team: Your Parish needs your HELP!

St. Raymond's is seeking industrious, able-bodied persons to join the 2022 Snow Removal Team. The Snow Team will work with the Plant Manager to clear and de-ice the sidewalks and paved walkways around the property during ice and snow events. Equipment is provided; sidewalks and aprons must be cleared no less than 30 minutes before the first Mass of the day (and as needed thereafter). Snow Team members must have reliable transportation that enables them to get to the church in bad weather. \$20.00 per hour. For more information or to apply, please contact the Parish Office, at 703-440-0535 during office hours.

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. For more information, call Dave Wilson, 703-966-5327.

Luminaries of Holy Mary: Come join us 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. Our next meeting is on February 5. All are welcome.

Legion of Mary Auxiliary Contact and Recruitment Drive. After all Masses on the weekend of January 29-30, the Legion of Mary will host a table in the narthex. Our Legion wants to meet current Auxiliaries to update their contact information as well as meet with parishioners who are interested in joining the Legion. Did you know the Legion of Mary just achieved its 100 year centennial this past September? Come and be part of the worldwide group! The Legion of Mary weekly meeting is held on Wednesday evenings at **6:30 pm**. Point of contact: Judy Mayer, email: jmayer9014@aol.com and phone 703-627-7320.

Virtus Seminar at St. Raymond's: There is a Virtus Seminar scheduled at St. Raymond parish hall on Thursday February 24th 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. Any questions, contact Vince Drouillard at 703-440-0537.

Church Persecuted

This Tuesday, January 25th, the Church celebrates the conversion of St. Paul. Saul, as he was known then, was an early persecutor of the Church and directed the early persecution of followers of Jesus. He was present at the stoning of St. Stephen, the first martyr (Acts 8:1-3). Times were tough back then. Christians were hiding in the catacombs as Roman emperors persecuted them one after another. Why? Because they were one of the fastest growing religions and they refused to worship the Roman gods.

Imagine Ananias, who was told that Saul was coming to him and that he would be asked to help him (Acts 9:10-13). Granted Ananias received this instruction through a vision; but nonetheless, it was a humbling task to instruct Saul, now Paul, no longer the persecutor of Christians. Paul was converted because of the kindness and persistence of Ananias and others. Paul, who would become the public face of the Church to the Gentiles (non-Jews), began preaching, baptizing, converting others. His actions led to growth in the Church at a time when Rome was persecuting Christians throughout his travels; he was imprisoned, shipwrecked, tortured, and finally martyred.

In his book, *Under Siege, No Finer Time to be a Faithful Catholic*, Austin Ruse offers three steps for today's Catholics facing persecution: "quiet and privately," "flying the flag," and "charging the sniper's nest." More on this next week.

Home School Group: for more information visit our website www.homeschool-life.com/va/straymondhsg/

Contact: Katherine Bogacki or Malia Cameron at straymondhsg@gmail.com.

Mother Daughter Retreat: The Women's Apostolate to Youth invites you to a retreat for girls in grades 7-9 and their mothers entitled, **"Defend Us In Battle"** on **February 12, 2022 at St. Raymond's**. Join us for this wonderful opportunity to forge a stronger bond with your daughter by sharing and deepening your devotion to the great Archangel St. Michael -chosen by God to protect us from evil influences. This retreat includes talks, activities (fun!), as well as opportunities for confession, adoration, and Mass. The retreat begins at 8:30am and concludes at 3:30pm. The \$60 fee includes materials, breakfast, and lunch for both mother and daughter (\$15 per additional daughter).

For more information and to register (by January 29th), visit waywomen.com/daystar

Sorry, we cannot accept registrations at the door.

FORMED[®] Get In-Formed!

Just for Kids! The Value of Life – In this video, Dr. Tom shows us how God took time to make each one of us and how he has a big plan for each of us. After watching Dr. Tom, you will be a lover of LIFE.

Watch now at 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



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

7644 Dynatech Ct., Springfield, VA 22153

703-924-3996

ECHO — Since reopening in early fall, ECHO has experienced a great demand for the basic needs of food, clothing, housewares, and financial assistance. Families could not come in during the past year except for food and financial help. As the families come in for clothing and housewares, the supplies are getting low. Please consider helping. **ECHO** is located at 7205 Old Keene Mill Road in Springfield. The hours for donations are M-F 9:30am-12:30pm, Tuesday and Thursday 7pm-9pm, and the first Saturday of the month 9:30am - noon. If you have questions, check the website at echo-inc.org or call Kathy Siner at 703-405-8164. Thank you for your generosity.

St. Raymond's Young Adult Group. Are you 21-40 yrs old? (Single or married, with or without kids) Contact youngadults@straymonds.org to be added to our email list and hear about upcoming events!

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. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family. God bless you.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Offertory	\$ 14,652.00
Family Assistance	\$ 671.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 896.00
Our Lady of Ransom Catholic	
School Scholarship Donations	\$ 3,031.00

The Second Collection this week is for The Church in Latin America. Please be generous.

GENERAL, IMPLANT & COSMETIC DENTISTRY



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