



## 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:  
6:30 am & 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

8:15 - 8:45 a.m.

#### Saturday Afternoon

3:30 - 5:00 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

**THE HOLY SEASON OF LENT.** This Wednesday, March 2, 2022, is **Ash Wednesday**, marking the start of Lent. This is the season for Catholics to really remember what it means to be a Catholic and grow in their faith, as we focus on the immense love of God that led Him to suffer and die for our sins. At the same time, then, it's also a time to consider our sins—how we have failed to love Him—and to work to overcome them, through our diligent efforts and cooperating with His grace. In short, it can be a time of intense growth in our personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Lent, of course, brings a much busier parish schedule, which we've laid out in detail in this week's "Lenten Schedule" insert. Please keep this insert in a central place in your home—maybe on your fridge door—to remind you of the many opportunities for spiritual growth the parish offers this Lent.

**Ash Wednesday.** Ashes will be distributed at all Masses on Ash Wednesday: 6:30am, 8:30am, 12noon, **5pm** and 7pm. Since ashes are merely symbolic (a "sacramental" not a "Sacrament") they may be received by anyone who wishes to repent their sins, Catholic or not, in "good standing" or not. (Note: There are no confessions scheduled on Ash Wednesday).

Remember, Ash Wednesday is never a holy day of obligation, but we are highly recommended to attend Mass to begin Lent. Also, again, ashes are not a sacrament, and their imposition is not itself a blessing (although the ashes have been blessed). Even so, the ashes are an important sign of and PUBLIC WITNESS to our faith in Christ Crucified, his Gospel of repentance, and His grace of forgiveness.

Nota bene: For the distribution/imposition, I may wear a face mask (if I can convince myself it is liturgically appropriate), not because of Covid, but because I've discovered it helps shield my sinuses from the ashes, which tend to drive them crazy.

**Fasting and Abstinence.** Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of both fasting and abstinence, and every Friday in Lent is a day of abstinence. Failure to "substantially" keep these penances is grave matter (e.g., potentially a mortal sin).

The law of abstinence requires that no meat may be eaten on these days, and binds all Catholics who are 14 years old or older. No other penance may be substituted.

The law of fasting binds those who are between the ages of 18 and 59. The Church defines "fasting," for these purposes, as having only one full meal a day, with two additional smaller meals permitted, but only as necessary to keep up strength and so small that if added together they would not equal a full meal. Snacking is forbidden, but that does not include drinks that are not of the nature of a meal.

Even though these rules do not bind all age groups, all are encouraged to follow them to the extent possible. Children in particular learn the importance of penance from following the practice of their older family members. The sick, pregnant or nursing mothers, and other folks with special physical circumstances may be partially or totally exempt from these rules—use good judgment and take care of yourself.

**Doing Penance.** Of course, all Catholics are encouraged to do personal acts of penance throughout the season of Lent, traditionally of three types: **almsgiving** (including acts of charity), **sacrifice** (what you "give up" or "endure"), and **prayer**. Please choose your penances carefully, considering your health and state in life. Challenge yourself, but pick things you can

actually do, rather than things that are so difficult that you may easily give up on them. Offer all this in atonement for your sins and as acts of love for the God who, out of love, died on the Cross for your sins.

**Sacrament of Penance.** Confession is absolutely the key to a fruitful Lent. I strongly encourage that you take advantage of our extended Lent confession schedule—it is my plan to hear **confessions every day in Lent**, except Ash Wednesday and Holy Thursday. The **times vary** throughout the week, and from week to week, so double check the "Lenten Schedule" insert. Note: as in Advent, we will have confessions every Sunday Morning from 8 to 9am.

Please do not postpone your confession to the end of Lent. Spiritually, it's important to start the season on the right foot, so repent early that Christ's grace may flow freely and unimpeded throughout the season. And practically, what so often happens is we have just a few people coming to confession every evening week during Lent, but then in the last week the lines are much longer.

**Special Lenten "Activities."** In addition to daily confessions and our regular schedule, we will also offer many other opportunities for deepening your Lenten experience.

**Lenten Series/Holy Hour.** I'm happy to say that we will return to having a Lenten Series this year. As in recent years, the talks will be given **during a Thursday evening Holy Hour** beginning on **March 10 at 7pm** in the Church, which will also include Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the Rosary, and Benediction.

I will give the talks myself this year, and they will be short—15 minutes, I hope—focusing on the topic: "**The Lifelong Suffering of Our Savior**." Consider how God the Son was born of the Virgin Mary, sharing in our human nature, becoming "like us in all things but sin." This means that Jesus suffered as we do, not just on Good Friday but all His life, from Bethlehem to Calvary. And that all of that suffering is part of his Redemptive Suffering for our sins. So each night we will consider a different phase of His life and suffering: Jesus as a child, as a young adult, during His public preaching and on Good Friday. Then we will close with a meditation on the suffering of His Sorrowful Mother, Mary, all during her Son's life.

**All Night Adoration Of The Blessed Sacrament.** At the end of the Thursday evening Holy Hours, we will continue Exposition/Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, continuously through Thursday night until 3pm Friday afternoon (with reposition during the morning Masses). My thought on this is to help us commemorate, weekly, the Passion of our Lord from the Agony in the Garden on Holy Thursday evening through His death on the Cross at 3pm on Good Friday.

I suggest you consider this as potentially a **great form of Lenten penance for you**—both sacrifice and prayer. And **I encourage all of you to take at least one hour during Lent**, if not every week, to spend with our Lord during this exposition, especially during the early morning hours, between midnight and 6am.

**Friday Evenings.** Every Friday evening we will have our **Soup Suppers** at 5pm and **Stations of the Cross** at 6:30pm. On the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays we will have our regular **Extraordinary Form Mass** immediately after Stations are completed.

*Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles*



**MASS INTENTIONS****Monday, Feb. 28th**

6:30 am Helen Donovan +  
8:30 am Helen Peck +

**Tuesday, March 1st**

6:30 am Kathryn Quan  
8:30 am Allison Schweitzer

**Wednesday, March 2nd****Ash Wednesday**

6:30 am Pauline Ferguson  
8:30 am Bob Ferguson +  
Noon Loretta Angela Colom +  
5:00 pm Edward Ettner +  
7:00pm Joyce Ann O'Connor +

**Thursday, March 3rd**

6:30 am Kevin Crennan +  
8:30 am John Paul Tyler +

**Friday, March 4th**

6:30 am Thomas Turner  
8:30 am Barbara Ann Blair  
7:00 pm EFM (Latin)

**Saturday, March 5th**

9:00 am  
Terry Marshall Smith +

**Vigil Mass**

5:00 pm **Fr. Horkan**  
Mike Krosnick +

**Sunday, March 6th**

7:00 am **Fr. Rippy**  
William E. Wilson +  
9:00 am **Fr. De Celles**  
Parishioners  
11:00 am **Fr. De Celles**  
Joyce Ann O'Connor +  
1:00 pm **Fr. Horkan**  
Francis Ramos +

**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.**

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

Glenn Bliss Tom Dietz Michael O'Neill Cindy Laird Patricia Lewis Barbara McGinn Mai Pham Joan Opiela Leonora Ramos Jason Saenz Phyllis Zitnik Patricia Del Buono Juanita Boarman	John Florio Michael Malachowski Debra Henkel Daniel Moore Lauren Hornsby Gaudencio Dizon Antoinette Baptist Paul Haynes Dwayne Taylor Bernadette D'Agostino Christopher Quan	Ted Tolpa Nena Brennan Serrin Foster Fr. Jerry Daly Tom Swengros Ellie Garcia Margaret O'Neill John Patrick Rowley, Jr. Donna Crean Rachel Valdez
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**Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church**

<b>Mar. 2</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday</b> Masses at 6:30 am, 8:30 am, Noon, 5:00 pm & 7:00 pm
<b>Mar. 4</b>	<b>Lenten Soup Supper 5:00pm-6:30pm</b>
<b>Mar. 4</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross 6:30 pm</b>
<b>Mar. 4</b>	<b>EFM (Latin) 7:00 pm</b>
<b>Mar. 5</b>	<b>Men's Prayer Group</b>
<b>Mar. 5</b>	<b>Luminaries of Mary</b>
<b>Mar. 6</b>	<b>Donut Sunday</b>
<b>Mar. 10</b>	<b>Lenten Series &amp; Holy Hour 7:00 pm</b>
<b>Mar. 10-11</b>	<b>Adoration from 7 pm Thurs—3:00 pm Fri.</b>
<b>Mar. 11</b>	<b>Book Club 10:00 am</b>
<b>Mar. 12/13</b>	<b>Youth Apostolate's Bake Sale</b>
<b>Mar. 19</b>	<b>K of C St. Patrick's &amp; St. Joseph's Dinner</b>

**Additional Confession Times during Lent! We will have confessions every day during Lent. Please see the Lenten Schedule, which is inserted in today's bulletin.**

**Donut Sunday, March 6th** after the 7:00, 9:00, and 11:00 AM Masses. Stop by the Parish Hall after Mass and enjoy some treats and drinks, and meet your fellow parishioners. This month's Donut Sunday will be hosted by Angelus Academy. **Lost and Found Items** will be displayed in the Parish Hall during Donut Sunday. If you are missing something & may have left it in the church, please be sure to check the table! Items not claimed by Jan. 3rd will be donated or disposed of, as appropriate.

**Lenten Soup Supper** this Friday, 5:00 - 6:30 pm. Please join your fellow parishioners for a delicious but simple meal each Friday during Lent. The cost is either a pot of homemade meatless soup or a salad & bread to share. This week's soup supper is being hosted by our Respect Life, Library & Legion of Mary groups.

**The Knights of Columbus annual St. Patrick's and St. Joseph's Day Dinner** will take place on Saturday, March 19, 2022 at 6:30pm in the parish hall. Tickets for the event will be sold after all Masses on the weekends of March 5-6 and March 12-13. Ticket Prices are \$5.00 for children (5-12), \$15.00 for Adults and \$50.00 for Families.

**Extraordinary Form / Traditional Latin Mass** at St. Raymond Church. St. Raymond's normally offers the Mass according to the Roman Missal of 1962, also known as the "extraordinary form of the Roman Rite" (EFM), at 7:00 pm on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of every month

**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

**Fasting and Abstinence**

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of both fasting and abstinence, and every Friday in Lent is a day of abstinence. Failure to "substantially" keep these penances is grave matter (e.g., potentially a mortal sin). The law of abstinence requires that no meat may be eaten on these days, and binds all Catholics who are 14 years old or older. No other penance may be substituted. The law of fasting binds those who are between the ages of 18 and 59. The Church defines "fasting," for these purposes, as having only one full meal a day, with two additional smaller meals permitted, but only as necessary to keep up strength and so small that if added together they would not equal a full meal. Snacking is forbidden, but that does not include drinks that are not of the nature of a meal. Even though these rules do not bind all age groups, all are encouraged to follow them to the extent possible. Children in particular learn the importance of penance from following the practice of their older family members. The sick, pregnant or nursing mothers, and other folks with special physical circumstances may be partially or totally exempt from these rules—use good judgment and take care of yourself.



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

**The 2022 Car Raffle** is off to a great start. Thank you for all those who have purchased tickets. If you need more tickets, contact Larry Saenz [lsaenz1@verizon.net](mailto:lsaenz1@verizon.net) or at 703-832-1042.

**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.

**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. Our next meeting will be on March 5th. 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 March 5th. All are welcome.

**Support Trail Life Troop 0683 - buy mulch and topsoil!** Trail Life Troop 0683, the troop sponsored by St. Raymond of Peñafort, is kicking off its annual mulch and topsoil sale to help parish families prepare for spring lawn and garden care. Your support will help our growing troop buy camping gear, advancement and recognition badges and instructional materials. You can mail in your order or order online. You will find details about pricing, sizes and instructions for ordering at this website, [straymonds.org/trail-life](http://straymonds.org/trail-life). We offer home delivery to Springfield, Lorton or Burke for an extra donation. If you live outside those delivery areas, you can still order for pick-up at St. Raymond's. Questions? Contact Eric Michael at 703-372-1240. *Thank you very much!*

**Book Club:** Our next meeting will be on Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 10 am in the Parish Library. We will be discussing *Under Siege: No Finer Time to be a Faithful Catholic* by Austin Ruse (190 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](mailto:bookclub@straymonds.org).

**Lenten Series, Holy Hour and Overnight Adoration.** Thursday evening Holy Hour begin on March 10 at 7pm in the Church, which will include Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the Rosary, and Benediction. Father De Celles will give a brief talk on "The Lifelong Suffering of Our Savior." At the end of the Thursday evening Holy Hours, we will continue Exposition/Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, continuously through the night until 3pm Friday afternoon. Please look for an email from the parish to sign up for an hour!

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

"The MaRiH Center is a Pro Life Pregnancy Support Center operating on Duke Street 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 of diapers and baby items up to 2T welcomed in the narthex.** Thank you for your continued generosity! **Donation collection spot is over near the elevator in the narthex.**



The spring campaign runs from March 2<sup>nd</sup> – April 10<sup>th</sup>. **Our parish commitment weekend will be April 2-3.** Please mark your calendar now and plan to join us in witnessing outside the Falls Church Healthcare Center 900 S Washington St. in Falls Church. Whether abortion is legal or not, we must continue to **PRAY TO END ABORTION**. Sign up sheets in the narthex.



**SIDEWALK OUTREACH: The Most Important Conversation in the World**

If you are 18 or older, you are eligible to register for this 6-module training which will give you the tools and the confidence to offer help and hope to abortion facility clients. From the spiritual foundations of sidewalk outreach to proven techniques for engaging abortion clients to legal principles, this program will give you confidence as you hit the streets and empower women to choose life. [www.40daysforlife.com/en/university](http://www.40daysforlife.com/en/university)

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.

**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).

**A Day of Prayer and Healing** for women who have experienced abortion will be held on **Saturday, March 26, 2022**. These group healing events are held in a private and peaceful setting, in English and Spanish. You are not alone. Take the first step. For confidential inquiries, please contact Project Rachel Ministry: 703-841-2504 or [info@helpafterabortion.org](mailto:info@helpafterabortion.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>

### Youth Group & CCD this Sunday, February 27

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

5:30-7pm Religious Education/CCD

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

### Come see our High School One-Act Play—FREE!

7:30pm Sunday, February 27th (Parish Hall)

Dear parishioners, come see 'The Light and the Lamb' -- a live theatrical portrayal of an episode in the early life of St. Chiara (Clare) of Assisi and her sister Agnes, who bravely pursue their vocation despite their father's cruel attempts to keep them from it. A 30-minute production performed by our high school teens, this exciting story presents an example and a challenge to modern Catholics, living as we do in a culture of comfort poisoned by an irreverence for all that is holy. Bring the family!

### High School Fri. Morning Mass & Breakfast 3/4

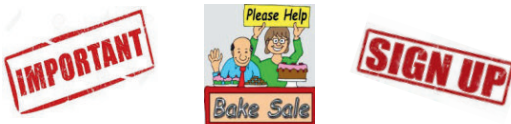
### Looking for a great Lenten Sacrifice & addition to your spiritual life??

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!

### Steubenville Youth Conference (July 8-10, 2022)

Teens currently in 8-12th grade are invited to join us for a weekend away with a few thousand Catholic teens to encounter God & experience His love through the power of the Sacraments, youthful dynamic Catholic speakers, uplifting music & new friends! Throughout the Bible, the Lord tells us over and over again, "Be not afraid," and he continues to speak these words to us today. Join our group in road tripping to Steubenville, Ohio from July 8-10, 2022 to experience the peace of Jesus Christ, who is always faithful and will never abandon us.

For more info & to register go to <https://bit.ly/steubenville2022>



### Bake Sale Help Needed After Masses March 12-13

Compliant adults and teens are needed to "man the table" for our Bake Sale after each Mass March 12-13. If you can commit to helping, please sign up this week at <https://bit.ly/ManTheTable> ASAP. Thank you!

### Food Contributions Needed & Appreciated!

Are you able to support our youth by picking a few items from the links below to contribute towards our Friday breakfast or Sunday dinners for our teens? Their hungry bodies thank you!

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

Thank you for supporting our youth!

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

### Attention parents of 8th grade students:

1. Sponsor Eligibility letter (from sponsor's home parish) is due no later than March 18th
2. Statement of Sponsor form due no later than March 18th.

**Attention parents of 7th Grade students** please check out Confirmation requirements as outlined in the *Supplement to Parent/Student Handbook Sacrament of Confirmation 2023* which you received in your red folder at the beginning of the academic year.

**Confirmation Registry form with Certificate of Baptism attached** (unless baptized here at St. Raymond's) is due no later than March 31st.

**Legion of Mary:** Do you want to develop a closer relationship with our Mother Mary and her Son, Jesus? The Legion of Mary weekly meeting is held on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm in the Maurer Room. All auxiliary members and anyone interested in joining the Legion of Mary are welcome. Point of Contact: Judy Mayer, [jmayer9014@aol.com](mailto:jmayer9014@aol.com), or phone 703-627-7320.

**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](http://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](mailto:youngadults@straymonds.org) to be added to our email list and hear about upcoming events!

**Courage Support Group for Those Experiencing Same-Sex Attraction.** COURAGE is a group that meets regularly to offer fraternal, moral, and spiritual support for those who experience same-sex attraction and desire to live chaste lives according to the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. Meetings are for men and women and strict confidentiality is maintained. For more information, please contact [Courage@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:Courage@arlingtondiocese.org) or visit <http://couragec.net/index.htm>.

### 2022 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA)

Do this in remembrance of me

The **2022 BLA Commitment Sunday is this weekend!** Once a year we are asked to make a pledge to support the work of our diocesan programs and ministries which provide services that no parish could provide on its own. Our parish goal is 100% participation. By participating in the BLA, we remember the gift that Christ Himself gave us through His body and blood, and are asked to respond to His call to serve our brothers and sisters. You may go online to make a donation at: [www.arlingtondiocese.org/bla](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/bla) or scan the QR code below:





### Church Persecuted

Religious freedom in America is in a sad state as vandalism at Catholic churches around the nation has increased this past year. Here's a tabulation of the latest incidents of vandalism at Catholic Churches in America. See last week's bulletin for start of the list.

Sep. 29/Aug 20 – Statues of Jesus vandalized (St. Martha Catholic Church, Miami Shores, FL)  
 Sep. 29 – Windows broken and exterior spray painted with pro-abortion messages (Sacred Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Boulder, CO)  
 Sep. 23 – Stained glass windows smashed (St. Peter Armenian Apostolic Church, Van Neys, CA)  
 Sep. 5 – Graffiti on church door and signs (St. Louis Catholic Church, Louisville, CO)  
 Sep. 2 – Exterior of church and parish hall vandalized with paint (St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Jay, ME)  
 Aug. 17 – Statue vandalized (St. Michael's Church, Flushing, NY)  
 Aug. 9 – Virgin Mary statue vandalized (Immaculate Conception of Blessed Mary Church, Bronx, NY)  
 Aug 6 – Doors vandalized (St. Benedict Catholic Church, Seattle, WA)  
 Jul. 17 – Statues smashed (Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church, Forest Hills, NY)  
 Jul/Jun – Three churches vandalized by fire and graffiti (St. Francis of Assisi, St. Patrick, St. Andrew Catholic Churches, Portland, OR)  
 Jul 8 – Fire set in bell tower (St. Mary's Catholic Church, Los Angeles, CA)  
 Jul 7 – Statue of Jesus covered with red paint (Basilica of St. Lawrence, Asheville, NC)  
[https://www.usccb.org/committees/religious-liberty/Backgrounder-Attacks-on-Catholic-Churches-in-US#tab--\\_021](https://www.usccb.org/committees/religious-liberty/Backgrounder-Attacks-on-Catholic-Churches-in-US#tab--_021)

**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).

### FORMED<sup>®</sup> Get In-Formed!

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The Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge and members of the Host Committee invite you to attend a benefit for the Cloistered Nuns of St. Dominic's Monastery. **The Laetare Benefit** is our annual fundraising dinner for the cloistered nuns of St. Dominic's Monastery in Linden, VA. Please show your support & join us for a reception, dinner, raffle, and auction, on **Sunday, March 27, 2022 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm** at the **Westwood Country Club, 800 Maple Avenue East, Vienna, Virginia**. Seating is limited. **RSVP by March 21, 2022**. Tickets are \$175 each and table sponsorships are available, starting at \$1,750 for 10. Please send a check payable to *Friends of St. Dominic's Monastery*, 524 N. Pitt Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. For more info, please contact:

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### FAITH DIRECT FEBRUARY 2022

<b>Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 45,973.00</b>
<b>Family Assistance</b>	<b>\$ 2,372.34</b>
<b>Maintenance Fund</b>	<b>\$ 5,722.34</b>
<b>Our Lady of Ransom Catholic</b>	
<b>School Scholarship Donations</b>	<b>\$ 1,515.00</b>
<b>Arlington Catholic Herald</b>	<b>\$ 1,267.00</b>

### LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

<b>Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 12,427.40</b>
<b>Family Assistance</b>	<b>\$ 375.00</b>
<b>Maintenance Fund</b>	<b>\$ 391.00</b>
<b>Our Lady of Ransom Catholic</b>	
<b>School Scholarship Donations</b>	<b>\$ 1,939.00</b>

**The Collection on Ash Wednesday (March 2) is for The Church in Eastern & Central Europe.**

**The Second Collection Next weekend (March 5/6) is for The Black & Indian Missions.**

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