

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



## **Welcome to St. Raymond of Peñafort Roman Catholic Church**

**8750 Pohick Road  
Springfield, VA 22153**

### **WEEKEND MASSES:**

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm  
Sunday: 7:00 am, 9:00 am,  
11:00 am and 1:00 pm

### **WEEKDAY MASSES:**

Monday through Friday:  
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  
Mary Hansen, Religious Education Secretary  
Joe Marquart, Plant Manager  
Kirsti Tyson, Office Manager  
Mary Butler, Secretary  
Virginia Osella, Parish Secretary

### **PARISH OFFICE:**

Telephone Numbers:

Rectory: 703-440-0535  
Rel. Education: 703-440-0537  
Fax: 703-440-0538

### **Office Hours**

Monday-Friday 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

### **E-Mail**

Church: Office@straymonds.org  
Rel. Ed.: ReligiousEducation@straymonds.org  
Choirs: Music@straymonds.org

### **Website**

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

**TUITION ASSISTANCE:** Please inquire with our office about the availability of partial scholarships for the children of active St. Raymond parishioners attending local Catholic grade schools and high schools.

**Angelus Academy**  
**7644 Dynatech Ct, Springfield, VA 22153**  
**703-924-3996**

Angelus Academy is a fully-accredited pre-K through 8th grade Catholic School affiliated with the Diocese of Arlington. Although it has no official connection with St. Raymond's, the parish has a longstanding close relationship with Angelus Academy. Many of our parish children already happily attend school there.

### **SACRAMENT OF PENANCE (Reconciliation/Confession)**

#### **Wednesday Evening**

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

#### **Saturday Morning**

8:15 - 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

**Extraordinary Form Mass.** On July 30 Bishop Burbidge issued a new policy forbidding (effective September 8) the public celebration of the Extraordinary Form Mass (EFM) except in 8 locations in the Diocese of Arlington—3 parish churches and 5 chapels. Currently there are 21 parishes that celebrate the EFM, (or “the Traditional Latin Mass”, or “Mass according to the Missal of 1962”), including St. Raymond’s. Priests will still be allowed to celebrate the EFM in private, but only *truly* in private, i.e., no congregation at all other than a server.

Bishop Burbidge has taken this action to conform to Pope Francis’ decree, *Traditionis Custodes*, of July 16, 2021, which essentially sought to eliminate the use of the “Old Mass” except perhaps in very rare cases, and then not in parish churches. Pope Francis sees a danger in the Old Mass, holding that it is a cause of disunity and even heresy.

Pope Francis’ outlook, was very confusing to me, since it is so radically different than his predecessors’, especially Benedict XVI’s. Before he became Pope, Cardinal Ratzinger wrote: “I am of the opinion, to be sure, that the old rite should be granted much more generously to all those who desire it. It’s impossible to see what could be dangerous or unacceptable about that. A community is calling its very being into question when it suddenly declares that what until now was its holiest and highest possession is strictly forbidden, and when it makes the longing for it seem downright indecent. Can it be trusted any more about anything else? Won’t it proscribe tomorrow what it prescribes today?” (Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, *Salt of the Earth* (1997).

Then as Pope Benedict XVI, he reiterated this opinion in his decree, *Summorum Pontificum* (July 7, 2007) which allowed the widespread celebration of the Old Mass by virtually any priest in any parish. In the accompanying letter to the bishops he wrote: “What earlier generations held as sacred, remains sacred and great for us too, and it cannot be all of a sudden entirely forbidden or even considered harmful.”

Many people are upset by Bishop Burbidge’s decision. Even folks who do not attend the “Old Mass,” take the attitude of either “Why deny people something they find truly spiritually helpful?” or “Why cancel it since it has a good instructional effect on the celebration of the ‘New Mass?’” Others say they are upset because of what they consider the Pope’s strong-armed and/or cruel approach.

First of all, I encourage you not to be too upset with the Bishop: he was simply being obedient to the Pope. The Pope, especially through those in Rome he has put in charge of the liturgy, has made it clear that he wants the Bishops to end the celebration of the Old Mass, and that he sees it as bad for the Church, and that he will brook no dissent.

It is true that some Bishops have interpreted the Pope’s decree as giving each bishop the authority to decide for themselves how to limit, or not limit, the use of the Old Mass, regardless of what the pope’s subordinates in Rome are saying: Archbishop Sample and Bishop Paprocki come to mind. But for many bishops, priests, and lay people it is hard to separate obedience to the Holy Father from obedience to those who speak for him in Rome. The old saying is “Roma locutus est, causa finite est” (“Rome has spoken, the case is finished/closed”), not simply “*Papa* (the Pope) locutus est, causa finite est.”

I believe **our Bishop has tried his best to give us the most generous access to the Old Mass that he can—I was**

expecting Rome only to let us have 5 chapel EFMs, and Bishop Burbidge was able to talk them into that plus 3 parish church EFMs. But he is constrained by Rome. And he believes, in his conscience, that he is obliged to do this under his promise of obedience to the Pope. One could disagree with him over what is required by obedience and what is required by his pastoral obligations to his own flock—it would seem the good and respected Bishops Sample and Paprocki do. But can we be upset or angry with a Bishop who tries his best to balance the two, but in a way that disappoints or saddens us?

*[As an aside, consider the case of Bishop Fernandez of Puerto Rico, who last year was suddenly unceremonious removed apparently simply for not agreeing with the other bishops of Puerto Rico. A lot of Bishops are afraid, or at least anxious. Even brave bishops have to wonder, “if they remove me,...who would they send to take care of my flock?”]*

Some ask, should we, can we, be angry or upset with the Pope? This is a very difficult thing to consider. I hate the very thought of it. We must love and respect our Holy Father. Even so, I have said many times that this Pope confuses me. I don’t understand many of the things he does. And that is exactly, writ large, the case here.

This is a heavy cross for many of us. Some very mature and intelligent people have told me they feel like abused children of an abusive father (or abusive priest). I think the hierarchy should hear this, even if they think this is an overreaction. These people too, need “accompaniment,” and should not be shoved aside or ignored. I’m worried that that will not be the case.

I will leave my comment at that. But **I will continue to offer the “Old Mass”** (the “EFM,” the “Traditional Latin Mass according to the Missal of 1962”) **every Friday night until September 3 (inclusive)**. After that, the Old Mass will be available at:

- St. Anthony Mission Church, King George (St. Elizabeth Parish)
- St. Rita Church, Alexandria
- St. John the Beloved Church, McLean
- Chelsea Academy, Front Royal (St. John the Baptist Parish)
- Sacred Heart Academy, Winchester (Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish)
- Renaissance Montessori School, Nokesville (Holy Trinity Parish/All Saints Parish)
- St. John the Apostle Parish, Leesburg, in the historic chapel
- St. Patrick Parish, Fredericksburg, in the former church building

**Altar Server Graduation.** I want to say a big thank you to the young men who have just graduated from high school and are now leaving our altar server ranks to go away to college. Most of them have been serving here 9 years, and all of them have been excellent dedicated and faithful servers. I am proud of them all, and will miss each of them, even as I wish them well and promise them my prayers and support going forward. I hope one or two (or more) will discover a calling to be a priest, but I know all of them will grow into good and even great Catholic men. Please join me in thanking them and praying for them: **Andrew Burns, Xavier Chmielewski, David Hatcher, Joseph Hildebrand, Shane LeMay, Brendan Mullen, and Jean-Luc Murray.**

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



**MASS INTENTIONS****Monday, Aug. 8th**

6:30 am Howard Ozeroff +  
8:30 am Harriet Shealy +

**Tuesday, Aug. 9th**

6:30 am Peg Smith +  
8:30 am Margot Carter Blair

**Wednesday, Aug. 10th**

6:30 am Molita Burrows +  
8:30 am Mara Rodriguez +

**Thursday, Aug. 11th**

6:30 am Doctors & Staff of  
Tepeyac  
8:30 am Anna Mildred Mault +

**Friday, Aug. 12th**

6:30 am Howard Benson +  
8:30 am Jim & Marge O'Kane  
7:00 pm EFM (Latin)

**Saturday, Aug. 13th**

9:00 am Michael Allman +

**Vigil Mass**

5:00 pm **Fr. Horkan**  
Michael Allman +

**Sunday, Aug. 14th**

7:00 am **Fr. De Celles**  
Marie Heaney +  
9:00 am **Fr. De Celles**  
Parishioners  
11:00 am **Fr. Rippy**  
Paul Qui  
1:00 pm **Fr. Horkan**  
RE Catechists & their families

**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	Michael	Tom Swengros
Tom Dietz	Malachowski	Ellie Garcia
Michael O'Neill	Debra Henkel	Margaret O'Neill
Cindy Laird	Daniel Moore	Christina
Patricia Lewis	Gaudencio Dizon	Cautero
Mai Pham	Paul Haynes	James Bowling
Joan Opiela	Dwayne Taylor	Lupe Bowling
Jason Saenz	Christopher Quan	Heather Tyson
Phyllis Zitnik	Ted Tolpa	John Beyer
Patricia Del Buono	Nena Brennan	Jim Kirsch
Juanita Boarman	Serrin Foster	Selva Morales
John Florio	Fr. Jerry Daly	Stanley Ondrusek

**Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church**

<b>August 8</b>	<b>Family of Jesus Prayer Group</b>
<b>August 10</b>	<b>Adoration</b>
<b>August 10</b>	<b>Legion of Mary</b>
<b>August 11</b>	<b>Bridge Club</b>
<b>August 12</b>	<b>Adoration</b>
<b>August 12</b>	<b>EFM (Latin Mass) 7:00 pm</b>
<b>August 13</b>	<b>Altar Server Training Begins</b>
<b>August 15</b>	<b>The Solemnity of the Assumption</b>
	<b>Masses: 6:30 am, 8:30 am, Noon &amp; 7:00 pm</b>
<b>August 20</b>	<b>Men's Prayer Group</b>
<b>August 28</b>	<b>Parish Picnic 2 pm - 5 pm</b>

**Extraordinary Form / Traditional Latin Mass at St. Raymond's ends Sept. 3, 2022.** St. Raymond's has offered the Mass according to the Roman Missal of 1962, also known as the "extraordinary form of the Roman Rite" (EFM), on Friday evenings for several years. Following the recent decree of Bishop Burbidge, the Extraordinary Form, or Traditional Latin Mass, will not be offered at St. Raymond's after September 7, 2022. Until then, we will continue to offer the EFM/TLM every Friday at 7 pm through Sept. 3. Please join us.

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

[straymonds.org](http://straymonds.org)

Monday - Friday Daily Mass at 8:30 am  
Saturday at 9:00 am  
Sunday Mass at 9:00 am & 11:00 am

**Altar Server Training:** St Raymond's Parish has a very active Altar Server program. We invite all young men of the Parish to consider becoming an Altar Server. Young men between the ages of 9 and 18, who have received their First Communion are eligible. This is your opportunity to help assist the priest at Mass. **Training begins on Aug. 13th and continues the next two Saturdays.** Please visit [shorturl.at/ceRW3](http://shorturl.at/ceRW3) or contact the Parish Office at 703-440-0535 to sign up.

**Business Manager Vacancy.** We are seeking a full time Business Manager for the Parish Office. Responsibilities include: bookkeeping, financial and personnel record keeping and policy compliance. Accounting or Finance degree preferred. 3-5 years of financial management experience preferred. Experience in Parish Data System and Microsoft Office Suite preferred. Interested applicants should send a resume to [mary.butler@straymonds.org](mailto:mary.butler@straymonds.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).

**Watch for our Constant Contact Updates!** If you are not receiving emails from the parish, please contact the parish office at 703-440-0535 or [office@straymonds.org](mailto:office@straymonds.org).

**PARISH PICNIC! Sunday, August 28th (2-5pm)** Come enjoy the Annual Parish Picnic with your fellow parishioners. Food and fun for all ages! **We are need of volunteers** to help with set up, cooking, games, clean up and more. **Please visit our website** or call the parish office at 703-440-0535 for more information or to volunteer.

**Gift Shop Summer Clearance Sale.** Stop by the tables in the narthex or step into the shop on August 13 and 14 to see religious articles on clearance: rosaries, bibles, scapulars, prayer books, holy cards, medals, crucifixes, jewelry, and more! Over the summer, as during the year, the gift shop is open by appointment. Write the shop committee at [giftshop@straymonds.org](mailto:giftshop@straymonds.org) with inquiries or to request an appointment.

**Back to School Sock & Underwear Drive:** The St. Martin de Porres Committee is again sponsoring a "Back to School" drive for students in the Springfield area. We will be accepting donations of NEW Socks and Underwear for school aged children (age 5-17) this weekend, **August 6 - 7**. For health code reasons we can only accept NEW items. A collection box is in the Narthex. Items requested are:

Boys: Socks, Undershirts, Briefs & Boxers

Girls: Socks, Tights, Undershirts, Camisoles & Briefs

**Thank you for your continued support!**



### St. John Bosco Council #12846

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 Mark Menotti. [mark.menotti@yahoo.com](mailto:mark.menotti@yahoo.com) or go to [www.KofC.org/JoinUs](http://www.KofC.org/JoinUs) (and enter #12846 for our Council number) to become a Knight today!

**Bridge Club:** All levels of players are welcome. We play Bridge cards each week in the Church Hall. Contact Lois Kotlowski at 703-455-6567 [dancertoo2@yahoo.com](mailto:dancertoo2@yahoo.com) or James Kolakoski at 703-455-3009 [bridgeclub402@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeclub402@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining us.

**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 August 20th. 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 **Sept. 3rd**. All are welcome.

**Scholarships to Catholic Schools. St. Raymond's will again offer a one-time \$2,000 scholarship** for each parish child who is switching from public school (K-12) to Catholic school this year. **For all parish families**, each student in Catholic grade school can receive \$1,000 and Catholic high school students can receive \$2,000. This amount is renewable every year and is subject only to minimal qualification terms. You need to be a parishioner and send a request for the scholarship to Fr. De Celles. Also, additional financial aid is available if a family truly can't afford Catholic school, even with the above scholarships. These decisions are made on a case by case basis. There is also **assistance available for homeschooling families**. Contact the parish office for more information.

**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 at 4:00 pm on Wednesdays and 1:00 pm and 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](mailto:spoiledk9s@verizon.net). If you are interested in Fridays, please call Virginia Osella at 703-440-0535 or email [virginia.osella@straymonds.org](mailto:virginia.osella@straymonds.org). **Drop-ins are always welcome!**

**MARRIED COUPLES.** Getting ready for school means lots of time spent on your children. After school begins, why not give yourselves some time together? Make a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend Experience!  
Upcoming dates:

September 23-25, 2022 at the Crowne Plaza in Reston VA  
Only 11 spots available so sign up early! To register, go to [WWME.org](http://WWME.org), click "Apply" and search on Virginia. Feel free to contact Mark and Cathy Stangler at 703-378-4150 or [mstang1987@aol.com](mailto:mstang1987@aol.com) with any questions.

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

*"Generous openness to accept children from God as the gift to their love is the mark of the Christian couple."  
Saint Pope John Paul II*

**Natural Family Planning (NFP)** is the general title for the scientific, natural, and moral methods of family planning that can help married couples either achieve or postpone pregnancy. No drugs, devices, or surgical procedures are used to avoid pregnancy. Since the methods of NFP respect the **love-giving** (unitive) and **life-giving** (procreative) nature of the conjugal act, they support God's design for married love! For more information:

[www.arlingtondiocese.org/family-life/marriage/natural-family-planning/](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/family-life/marriage/natural-family-planning/)

**The MaRiH Center** is a Pro Life Pregnancy Support Center in Alexandria. Material donations of diapers and baby items up to 2T welcomed in the narthex. Collection box is near the elevator.  
**Presently, there is a particular need for size 5 and 6 diapers.**

**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.

Women often regret the desperate decision to take the abortion pill. Please call the abortion reversal helpline 855-209-4848. **It may not be too late. [abortionpillreversal.com](http://abortionpillreversal.com)**



**Wrapped In Love.** Summer is here! Maybe you have more time on your hands?! Perhaps you'd like to handcraft a blanket for a baby in need? Donated blankets may be brought to the parish office or deposited in the MaRiH Collection Box in the narthex. Store bought blankets and monetary donations for blankets are also most welcome. "Whatever you do to the least of my brethren, that you do unto Me."

**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?** **A Mom's Peace**, 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!** No woman should ever feel that she is alone or that abortion is her only choice. **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)

**Post-abortion Healing Retreat.** An *Entering Canaan Day of Prayer and Healing* (in English and Spanish) for women who have experienced abortion will be held on **Saturday October 15<sup>th</sup>**. Come begin your healing journey and experience God's hope and mercy. **You are not alone. There is hope. There is healing.** For more information and confidential registration, please contact Project Rachel Ministry at (703) 841-2504 or [info@helpafterabortion.org](mailto:info@helpafterabortion.org). Men who are suffering the effects of abortion, please call (703) 841-3833.

## St. Raymond's Youth Apostolate

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

It seems like summer has just begun, and yet, here we are planning for the next school year already! As a reminder, we HIGHLY encourage everyone to attend both youth group and CCD if at all possible! Remember, learning about our Faith is a life-long process...and does not end after Confirmation. We should all continue to seek out opportunities to learn more about our Faith throughout our entire lives. AND at the same time, it is super important to have friends who share your values and beliefs, with whom you can form life-long friendships and grow in the Faith ...thus youth group! Don't forget to register for CCD at <https://bit.ly/CCDforMe>

Youth Group & CCD start up again September 11th:

4-5:30pm Junior High Youth Group  
5:30-7pm 7-12th Grade CCD  
7-8:30pm High School Youth Group



### Volunteers Needed to help with Youth Group on Sundays

This summer several of our long-standing volunteers have moved out of state, which means WE NEED YOU! We are in need of folks (ages 21+) to help lead our teens to Christ via your example, witness, time and relational ministry. Is your faith important to you? Might you have a gift in working with teens? Maybe you do and you don't even know it yet! Take it to prayer. Ask God if He is calling you...and if He says yes, or maybe...or if you ask and can't hear His answer...contact Jeanne for more info. [youth@straymonds.org](mailto:youth@straymonds.org) **It is essential that more folks step up to volunteer in order to keep our thriving youth groups going. The time commitment to help with Jr. High is from 3:30-5:30pm and for High School it is 6:45-8:30pm. We can be flexible if you are out of town for a week here and there!**

### Virtus Seminar at St. Raymond's Thursday, October 6th at 6pm (parish hall)

St. Raymond's is hosting a Virtus seminar for anyone interested in volunteering to help with any ministries involving youth under the age of 18. For more information contact Mary Hansen [mary.hansen@straymonds.org](mailto:mary.hansen@straymonds.org)

**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

### We are in need of the following volunteers for the 2022-2023 Religious Education year:

Sunday Grade 3 Teacher\*  
Grade 3 Assistant teacher  
Sunday Grade 4 Teacher\*  
Monday high school aide for Kindergarten class  
Monday - RCIC elementary class (sacrament prep) teacher and assistant

**\* PLEASE NOTE:** If we are unable to fill the teacher vacancies on Sunday, we will cancel the classes and move the registered students to Monday.

**Please contact the Religious Education office if you are interested in filling one of the positions listed above.**

**\*\* Attention volunteers for the 2022-2023 academic year: there is a training session scheduled for August 27th - ALL VOLUNTEERS are required to attend.**

**Join the Legion of Mary!** The Legion of Mary makes its members better Catholics through prayer, service and evangelization. "Active" members meet weekly for prayer, planning and discussion. In pairs, we perform several hours of apostolic work each week. (At St. Raymond's works include working with/teaching youth, sponsoring the Pilgrim Virgin statue visits at parishioner homes, and taking the bulletin and sacramentals door-to-door.) "Auxiliary" members of the Legion of Mary offer their daily prayers to Our Lady so that she can apply them where they are needed. The Active Legion group meets on Wednesday nights, 6:30 – 8:00pm, in the Maurer Room. If you are interested in joining the Legion or have any questions, please contact Judy Mayer, [jmayer9014@aol.com](mailto:jmayer9014@aol.com), or call / text 703-627-7320.

**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](mailto: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.

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

**St. Martin de Porres Committee** - collects 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).



### Church Persecuted

Father Peter Stravinskias writes in *The Catholic Thing* (8/1/2022) of the Maccabees, Old Testament “heroic Jews who withstood assaults on their faith from within and without.” As Catholics face persecution from all sides, what can we learn from the Maccabees’ and Father Stravinskias’ wisdom?

1. The Jews initially faced soft persecution against “assimilation into a pagan culture” before being subject to harsher measures. How often are Catholics persecuted in the workplace by not blending their lifestyles “seamlessly with that of the secular culture?”
2. A greater number of Jews were being “pushed to infidelity by a pagan society,” even within their own ranks. “How many Catholics, even clergy,” moderate their life practices to get along with the general society?
3. Religious liberty, to the Maccabees, was an essential right. How do Catholics today stand up to the Obama and Biden administrations’ “unprecedented...attacks on religious institutions and religiously motivated people?”
4. The Maccabees stood out as “holy warriors,” defending “the purity of worship and the sanctity of God’s house.” How do we stand up to the “Pachamamas” of today’s worship?

Finally, Father Stravinskias reminds us of the great English saint, John Henry Newman, who during a debate with a Protestant colleague was advised, “Dr. Newman, I suppose we have to agree to disagree. You shall worship God in your way, and I in mine.” To which Newman replied, “No, reverend sir, you can surely worship God in your way; I, however, shall worship Him in *His* way!”

Read the full article at  
<https://www.thecatholicthing.org/2022/08/01/maccabean-lessons-about-heroism/>.

**St. Raymond’s Young Adult Group.** Are you 21-40 years 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!

## FORMED

### Get In-Formed!

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### Celebrating A Golden or Silver Wedding Anniversary This Year?

Were you married in 1972 or 1997? Then join Bishop Michael F. Burbidge for the 2022 Mass for Jubilarians to be celebrated on Sunday, October 16th at 3:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Arlington, Va. Contact the parish office to register no later than October 3, 2022. For more info, visit [www.arlingtondiocese.org/MJM](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/MJM).

### Donations for House of Mercy (HOM) -- Additional Drivers Needed.

For the past few years, about eight stalwarts from St Raymond's have made the trip to the House of Mercy in Manassas every week, delivering loads of donations to this charitable group. The eight of us have shared the load, with each individual making the 50-mile round trip about once every other month. The current schedule is set through September, but we would like to add 2-4 additional drivers starting in October. Donated items are generally small and not too heavy (large trash bags filled with clothing or boxes with small appliances, dishware, houseware items). Donated items usually fill an SUV or pick-up truck. If you have a large vehicle and are interested in joining us, please contact Jim Mault for more details: [jmault1@cox.net](mailto:jmault1@cox.net) or 703-362-9195.

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

### LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Sunday Offertory	\$ 12,097.00
Family Assistance	\$ 420.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 1,210.00
Our Lady of Ransom Catholic	
School Scholarship Donations	\$ 1,660.00

The second collection next week is the annual Mission Cooperative Plan Appeal. This year our parish mission organization is Bánica. To find out more about the Bánica Mission please go to <https://arlingtonmissions.org/diocese-of-arlington-banica-mission/>

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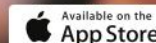
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