



## 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)

Every Friday at 7:00 pm  
through September 2, 2022.  
After this, the EFM will not  
be permitted

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

**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

**25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY.** Most people don't realize it, and that is largely my fault, but this last July 5, (a month ago) was the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of our parish in 1997. It took a while to get things up and running, but look at us today!

I had intended to celebrate this, but frankly, the end of May and beginning of June were a bit of a blur for me, between the end of school, (me) catching Covid, and all sorts of other things. I apologize.

But let's take this as an opportunity to celebrate not just past achievements, but to begin the next 25 years with a bang, rededicating ourselves to growing in faith, hope and love for Jesus and His Church. And so....

**Parish Picnic.** Let's begin our celebration with our annual Parish Picnic next Sunday (August 28) from 2-5pm here on the Parish grounds, behind the church. There's lots of food, fun and music for kids and adults alike—a great way to meet and get to know your fellow parishioners. For new parishioners (and visitors) this is a great opportunity to meet people and learn more about the parish; for the rest of us, this is one of the best chances we will have all year to welcome others into the life and fellowship of our parish—don't pass it up!

It will also serve as a **retirement party for Kirsti Tyson**, our long-time parish Business Manager. Most of you don't know this, but she played an essential role in getting the parish up and running, and in getting our church built. So come out and wish her a happy retirement and thank her for her 22 years of service to St. Raymond's. (She officially retires on September 9).

**Archbishop Cordileone is Coming!** We're working on getting some very special guest speakers in the coming months, and I am delighted to announce that we will begin on Monday, **September 12**, with Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone, the courageous Archbishop of San Francisco and Chairman of the U.S. Bishop's Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth. This is a return visit for His Excellency, who spoke here to a packed church (and 2 standing ovations!) in November 2015. He hasn't decided on his topic yet, but I'm looking forward to a very interesting talk. You may recall that His Excellency has been under constant public attack for his strong and outspoken defense of Church teachings, especially regarding homosexuality, "same-sex marriage," abortion and Eucharistic integrity.

It is really a great honor to have this good shepherd and heroic defender of the Faith come to speak to our parish, and I encourage all of you to save the date to attend and to invite your friends to join you. Mark your calendars now.

**Bishop Burbidge.** On December 4 our own good shepherd, Bishop Michael Burbidge, will join us for a special 11am Mass celebrating our Anniversary. Please mark your calendars for this as well.

**New Prayer Initiatives.** I've been trying to think of some simple ways to help parishioners to grow spiritually, especially in prayer, and without the necessary participation of a priest (we're a little short-handed). So here are two new opportunities which we will launch in the next few weeks. (Look for more details to come).

-- **Nocturnal Adoration.** You may have already seen my email asking about interest in weekly extended or "nocturnal adoration" of the Blessed Sacrament. That is, extending the current Wednesday OR Friday Exposition times into the evening, through the night and closing the following morning. This will allow us to grow in our love for the Eucharist by

1) extending the opportunity for adoration (especially to those who are busy during the daytime hours), and 2) offering the sacrifice often involved in late night/early morning adoration. Right now I'm still trying to decide which night to have it, so if you haven't responded to my email (it contains a link to a survey), please help me out.

-- **Daily Evening Family Rosaries.** You may have seen the attacks beginning on the Rosary by the Left (not enough room today, but see the terrible article in "The Atlantic"). These have confirmed me in my thinking to have parishioners **pray the Rosary in the church every evening at 6pm.** These rosaries will be led by one family, and joined by anyone else who cares to join them. So, a **different family every evening of the month, will commit/sign up**, and there may be only them or 100 others praying on any given evening. (A family may be even just two people, e.g. husband and wife, etc.). Please, prayerfully consider participating, especially by signing up to "lead."

**Back to School.** Most of our college and grade/high school children are heading back to school this week. I hope you have all had a wonderful summer, and are rested, refreshed and ready to take on the new challenges of the coming academic year. Have a blessed year.

**For those of you returning to the Fairfax County Public Schools,** be on guard against the anti-Christian bigotry growing in the schools. Watch for curriculum that tries to degrade any race—including "whites." Catholics don't hate or degrade others or themselves. We don't dwell on the offenses of the past, but believe in conversion, forgiveness and the dignity of every human being. Beware also of those who try to degrade your or other's bodies, either by encouraging sexual promiscuity or sexual/identity confusion.

Parents, you know that you cannot simply let the government/public schools take charge of the education of your children. **YOU are the primary educators of your children**, so monitor and discuss with your children what they are being taught in school. Of course, remember to opt your children out of anything that attempts to teach them secular morals, especially sexual and family morals, i.e. especially relevant sections of "Family Life Education." But also remember to be on guard against the Marxist-secularist-atheist ideologies that will be permeating almost every class, from social sciences to math. There are many good and dedicated teachers and administrators in public schools (many of our parishioners), so seek them out and support them.

And those of you with children in Catholic schools, that's a great option, but no school or teacher is perfect. So, trust, but verify. And continue to teach them the Faith at home.

**CCD/Religious Education.** And remember to register today (online or in person) for Religious Education classes here at St. Raymond's, which begin the week of September 11.

**Finally.** As I wrote you a couple of months ago, I needed to take some extra time off this summer to recharge after the last couple of difficult years. And in spite of various sad setbacks, I was able to do this, and had a very good summer. Of course, Alaska and *Dobbs* helped a lot in that, and so did the 89 I hit on the golf course last week—tying my best score! Thanks for your patience and support. I look forward to the exciting year ahead of us.

*Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles*



**MASS INTENTIONS****Monday, Aug. 22nd**

6:30 am Mary Jo Wiese +  
8:30 am Julia Riordan

**Tuesday, Aug. 23rd**

6:30 am George Cogliano +  
8:30 am Lestea Noller

**Wednesday, Aug. 24th**

6:30 am Cecile Bosworth +  
8:30 am Rose Marie Tougas +

**Thursday, Aug. 25th**

6:30 am Melanie Walling +  
8:30 am Frank DeMoro +

**Friday, Aug. 26th**

6:30 am Thuhang Nguyen &  
Taylor Le  
8:30 am Louis & Frances  
Page+  
7:00 pm EFM (Latin)

**Saturday, Aug. 27th**

9:00 am Haydee Claire  
Inciong Tolentino

**Vigil Mass**

5:00 pm **Fr. Horkan**  
Walter & Cara Seiberling

**Sunday, Aug. 28th**

7:00 am **Fr. De Celles**  
David Sean Warren +  
9:00 am **Fr. Horkan**  
Parishioners  
11:00 am **Fr. Rippy**  
Donna & Ron Shickel  
1:00 pm **Fr. De Celles**  
Simeon & Angela Guerrero +

**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 Opiea	Dwayne Taylor	Lupe Bowling
Jason Saenz	Christopher Quan	Jim Kirsch
Phyllis Zitnik	Ted Tolpa	John Beyer
Patricia Del Buono	Nena Brennan	Allison Harper
Juanita Boarman	Serrin Foster	Mark Randall
John Florio	Fr. Jerry Daly	Virginia Javier

**Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church**

<b>August 22</b>	<b>Family of Jesus Prayer Group</b>
<b>August 24</b>	<b>Adoration</b>
<b>August 24</b>	<b>Legion of Mary</b>
<b>August 26</b>	<b>Adoration</b>
<b>August 26</b>	<b>EFM (Latin Mass) 7:00 pm</b>
<b>Aug. 27/28</b>	<b>Bethlehem Wood Carvers</b>
<b>August 28</b>	<b>Parish Picnic 2 pm - 5 pm</b>
<b>Sept. 12</b>	<b>Speaker: Archbishop Cordileone at 7 pm</b>

**PARISH PICNIC!** Next 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.

**Bethlehem Wood Carvers:** On the weekend of August 27/28, there will be a display of beautiful olivewood handmade carvings from the Holy Land. These Carvings are made by the Christians of Bethlehem who use them as their source of income. These brothers and sisters of ours are enduring hardships at this moment because of the volatile situation in their home country. Christians in the Holy Land used to be more than 37% of the population. There is less than 1% now because of the situation. As Christians of faith, it is our duty to support our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land. YOU can support them by purchasing some of these beautiful carvings after Mass.

**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.

**Extraordinary Form / Traditional Latin Mass at St. Raymond's ends Sept. 2, 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. 2.** 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

**Save the Date: Archbishop Cordileone to speak at St. Raymond's on Sept. 12.** Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone, the courageous Archbishop of San Francisco and Chairman of the U.S. Bishop's Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth will come for a return visit on **Monday, Sept. 12 at 7 pm.** His Excellency spoke here to a packed church in November 2015. Please join us! Stay tuned for this year's topic.

**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. 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!

#### Upcoming Events:

- Wed - Sept 7 - Fraternal Benefits Night at St. Mary of Sorrows -  
7pm - 8pm (Knights Insurance)
- Sat - Sept 10 - "Into the Breach" men's series to arm us in the  
spiritual battle men face -in the Maurer Room 10am-noon
- Sat - Sept 17 - Knights and families visit the Grotto of Lourdes  
in Emmitsburg, MD 10am -1pm
- Sat - Sept 17 - Shredding event at St. Raymond's - to fund  
vocations, 10am -1pm
- Sat - Sept 24 - Knights golf outing at Burke Lake

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 September 3rd. 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.

**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).

### Adult Enrichment Opportunities:

**2022-2023 RCIA/Catholic Update** - St. Raymond's will offer RCIA classes on Monday evenings from 7:30 to 8:30 PM in the Maurer Room from September 12, 2022 until April 3, 2023 (except for Holidays) Those seeking information to understand and/or to enter the Catholic Church, and baptized Catholics seeking additional sacraments are welcomed. No registration is required. If you have questions call Bob Ward, (703) 644-5873 or via email at [biblestudy@straymonds.org](mailto:biblestudy@straymonds.org)

**2022-2023 Adult Bible Study** - St. Raymond's will offer an overview of the Synoptic Gospels on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 to 10:30 AM and again on Tuesday evenings from 7:30 to 8:30 PM. (except for holidays) in the Parish Hall, from Tuesday, September 13, 2022 until Tuesday, May 9, 2023. For further information please call Bob Ward at (703) 644-5873 or via email at [biblestudy@straymonds.org](mailto:biblestudy@straymonds.org)

### SAINT RAYMOND'S RESPECTS LIFE

*Learn the TRUTH. Live the TRUTH. Spread the TRUTH... in LOVE*

**Pregnancy Care Centers** remain on the frontline of helping mothers choose and sustain life. We proudly support The MaRiH Center in Alexandria. 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! Join fellow parishioners who volunteer at the center. For more info, visit [marih.org](http://marih.org)

**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/)

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. 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. Visit [amomspc.org](http://amomspc.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** (in English and Spanish) for women who have experienced abortion. **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.** Contact Project Rachel Ministry at (703) 841-2504 or [info@helpafterabortion.org](mailto:info@helpafterabortion.org). Men 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 lifelong 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 lifelong friendships and grow in the Faith...thus youth group! Don't forget to register for CCD at <https://bit.ly/CCDforMe>. There is **no fee and no homework** for high school CCD.

### Youth Group & CCD start up again September 11th:

4-5:30pm Junior High Youth Group (pizza dinner included)  
5:30-7pm 7-12th Grade CCD  
7-8:30pm High School Youth Group (pizza dinner included)

### Talitha Koum: High School Girls' Group!

#### 7-8:30pm TUESDAY, September 27 (Maurer Room)

All 9-12th grade girls are invited to join in sisterhood! We look forward to meeting new people and getting to know others better as together we cultivate authentic community, friendships, and space to share our faith, as we learn and encourage one another in ways to practically apply the faith to our daily lives. Note the change in day and location; **Talitha Koum is now meeting on the 2nd & 4th TUESDAY of each month in the Maurer Room from 7-8:30pm.** All high school ladies are welcome!!

### Sons of Thunder: High School Guys' Group

#### 6:30-8pm THURSDAY, September 22 (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 is switching to meeting on the 2nd and 4th THURSDAY of each month, beginning and ending slightly earlier this year, from 6:30-8pm in the Maurer Room.** Newcomers are always welcome! There will be food!

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

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!**

**Jeanne Sause**

Director of the Youth Apostolate (Grades 7-12)

[youth@straymonds.org](mailto:youth@straymonds.org) Call/Text: 571-334-9890

**Email Jeanne to get our weekly emails with important Youth Apostolate news & upcoming events!**

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### 2022-2023 Religious Education (CCD) classes

**begin September 11th** - If you have not registered your child(ren), please do so now either online or in person - we only have two sessions this year and some classes are almost full.

### 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 - RCIC elementary class (sacrament prep) assistant

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

### REMINDER to catechists and assistants: Training Day is August 27th!!!

**ALL PARENTS are expected to attend a "Back to CCD Night" meeting** scheduled for September 25th (5:50 p.m.) and September 26th (5:05 p.m.) in the parish hall. You may attend the meeting on Sunday OR Monday, whichever is more convenient for you.

**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).

**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.

**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



### Church Persecuted

This column had recently reported on the terrorist attack at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Owo, in southwest Nigeria on Pentecost. Recently, the government confirmed the arrest of at least seven individuals in connection with the attack, although none have yet been charged. One was a high-ranking member of the so-called Islamic State in West Africa Province, which is a breakaway faction of Boko Haram, a group that was initially blamed for the attack. They attacked the church on June 5, killing at least 40 and injuring many others.

Some of the assailants sat through Mass pretending to be worshipers and then touched off the attack toward the end of the Mass, detonating explosives and spraying bullets throughout the congregation. The attack lasted between 20-25 minutes.

An 8-hour drive east of Owo is St. Francis Xavier Parish in Agagbe. They have been told by the governor that a 500-man armed militia will help defend their community from radical Islamic bandits who are attacking farms and villages in this breadbasket of Nigeria. Thousands who have been uprooted from their homes by attacks in surrounding towns and villages in recent years have sought refuge near St. Francis parish, which oversees a network of dozens of Catholic churches in the diocese of Makurdi. On a broader scale, more than 1 million people have been displaced and about 80% are being cared for by the Makurdi diocese.

Catholicnewsagency.com 8/12/22 "Catholic Parish in Nigeria struggles to feed thousands uprooted by violent attacks."

Catholicnewsagency.com 8/12/22 "Arrests made in Nigeria Pentecost massacre."

**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).

**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!

**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).

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**WAY Holy Hour and Mass.** Beginning in August, there will be a monthly holy hour and Mass at St. Raymond's for the Women's Apostolate to Youth, a group for which Father De Celles is the chaplain. This event, usually on the last Wednesday of the month, is at 7:30 pm. Father will celebrate benediction at 7pm as usual, but leave the Blessed Sacrament exposed for Adoration by WAY. The event at 7:30 is intended only for the members of WAY and their (female) guests. If you would like to learn more about WAY and how you can get involved, visit [waywomen.com](http://waywomen.com) or email the director, Mary Camarca, at [womenofway@gmail.com](mailto:womenofway@gmail.com).

**Mother Daughter Retreat:** The Women's Apostolate to Youth invites you to a Mother-Daughter retreat (for girls in grades 7-9) entitled, "God's Plan for My Life: The Vocation of Woman" on September 24, 2022. 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. Gabriel--chosen by God to help us understand our true vocation and intercede for us to develop an obedient spirit and a love for our Eucharistic Lord. The retreat includes talks, activities (fun!), as well as opportunities for confession, adoration, and Mass. It begins at 8:30 am and concludes at 3:30 pm at St. Raymond of Peñafort Church, 8750 Pohick Rd. Springfield. The \$60 fee includes materials, breakfast, and lunch for both mother and daughter (\$15 per additional daughter). For more information and to register visit <https://www.waywomen.com/daystar-stgabriel>. Sorry, we cannot accept registrations at the door.

**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

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<b>Family Assistance</b>	<b>\$ 1,136.00</b>
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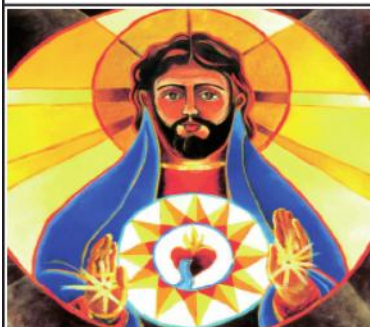
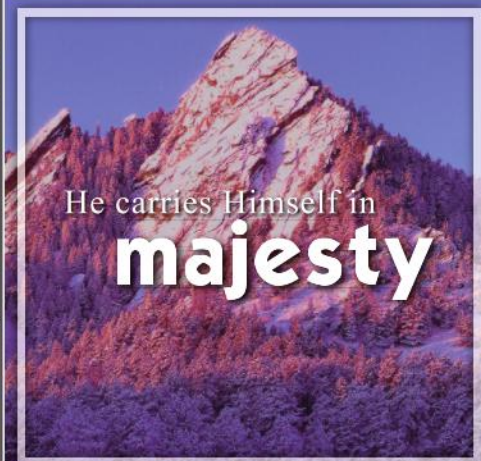
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