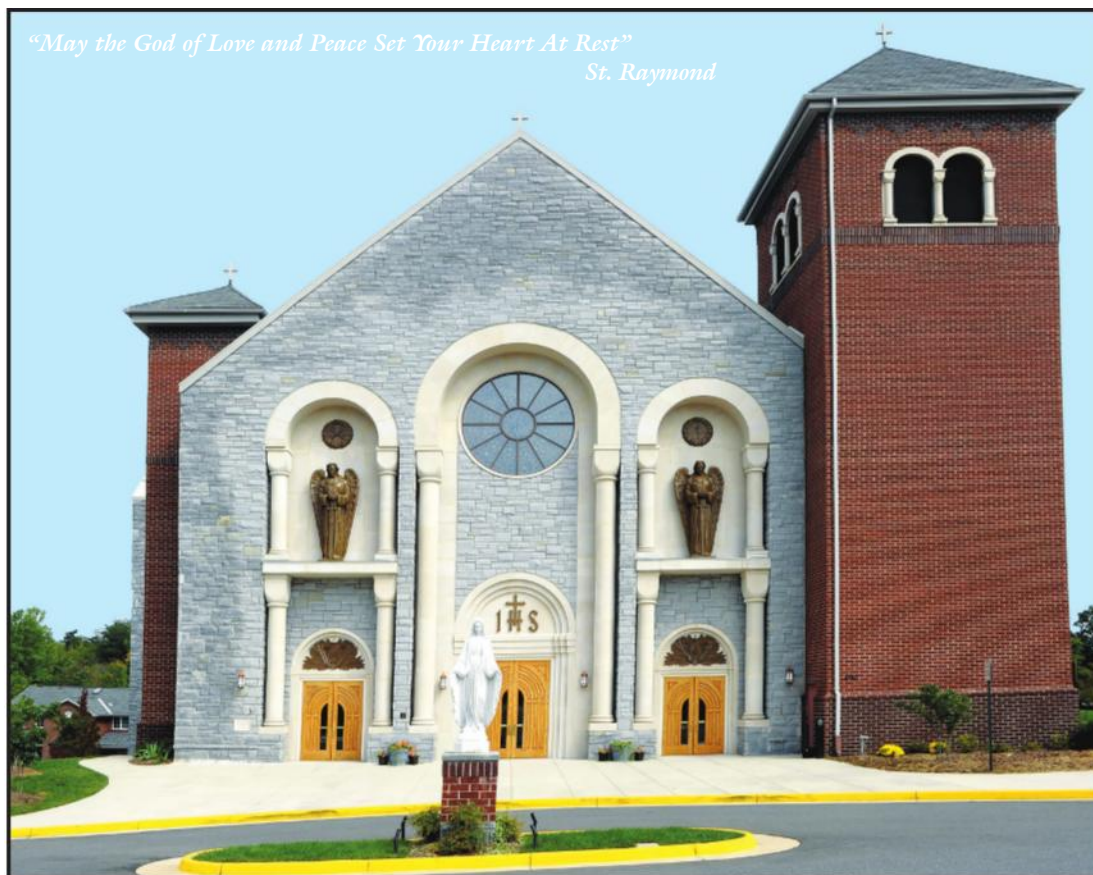


"May the God of Love and Peace Set Your Heart At Rest"
St. Raymond



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

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
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

Archbishop Cordileone. What an evening last Monday was! The Archbishop gave a very erudite but plainspoken talk on how the Catholic Church has, over 2 millennia, brought the Good, the True and the Beautiful to our Western Culture, and how today's cultural movements are corrupting this. But all this remains and is proclaimed in the Mass, so that the Mass must be protected as the source and summit and example of the Good, the True and the Beautiful to the world today.

What a great turnout too. I'm guessing 600, including visitors from around the diocese. And the crowd was enthusiastically supportive and grateful, giving His Excellency two standing ovations. The Archbishop was equally grateful, as he told me afterwards how the warm welcome was like a reinvigorating shot in the arm for him.

Thanks to His Excellency for visiting us, despite his very busy and whirlwind schedule this week. And thanks to all of you who made it such a success, including our security folks and Bob and Geri Laird, Gretta and Court Wheeler, Beth Berger, Ann Marie Riordon and the parish staff.

Summer's Over. I spent most of last week (9/6 – 9/11) playing golf down in Williamsburg, “officially” ending my summer. I had a very relaxing time with my priest-golfing-buddies: great weather, nice courses, decent scores and good fellowship. I should be homebound now until after Christmas, except that I will probably make a quick trip out to the Midwest for a family funeral in the next week or so. Thanks for your patience and support.

German Synod. Wow. Wow. Last week the German gathering of Bishops and lay people called the “The Synodal Way” approved documents embracing proposals for some very troublesome changes in the Church. To me, they seem to be “heresies.” According to various press accounts (e.g. The Pillar), delegates approved documents that:

- Propose a new “Synodal Council” which will include laity to oversee the governance of Bishops in Germany. 88% of bishops voted in favor. German theologian Cardinal Walter Kasper, strongly criticized the document as threatening to destroy the structure “that Christ wanted for his Church.”

- Criticize “the precarious situation of non-heterosexual priests” and called for “a removal of taboos and normalization of their situation.”

- Challenge “the exclusion of women from the sacramental ministry.” While not specifically calling for the ordination of women as deacons and priests, they did assert that, “for generations, many women *have known that they were called by God to be deaconesses or priestesses.*” It goes on to propose: “in future, it should no longer be gender that decides on the allocation of ministries, but the vocation, abilities, and skills that serve the proclamation of the Gospel in our time.”

- Demand that, “Catholic institutions and Church leaders...must not continue to disparage our trans and intersex ... brothers and sisters in faith, especially under the blanket accusation of ‘gender ideology’ or the ‘LGBTIQ agenda.’”

- Call for “a re-evaluation of homosexuality in the Magisterium.” It proposed that, “Paragraphs 2357-2359 as well as 2396 (homosexuality and chastity), amongst others, of the Catechism of the Catholic Church should be revised as part of this re-evaluation of homosexuality.”

I’m a still a little unclear as to whether these are the final results of the Synod, or still subject to revision. But in either case, it seems to me the German Synod, including a large majority of

the Bishops may now be material and perhaps formal heretics. **Material heresy** means they do not understand/know they are denying some defined truth of the faith, while **formal heresy** means they are knowingly and obstinately denying such truth. Formal heresy is punished under Canon Law by automatic excommunication, which in turn means automatic loss of office. Does this mean then, that all those German Bishops who voted in favor of the above heresies have been, de facto, excommunicated and removed from their offices, losing their episcopal authority? I just don’t know. Once again, I am confused. In any case, this is, as I write above, “very troublesome.”

Msgr. Dempsey. For the last year or so Msgr. Patrick Dempsey has been helping out with Masses and confessions, especially during the week, when Fr. Horkan or I have been away. I have introduced him at Masses in the past, but never in this column. So let me do that now.

Msgr. Dempsey is a retired priest of the Archdiocese of Washington, who now lives here in Springfield. He was born in Sioux City, Iowa in 1949. As a young man he attended college at Benedictine College (Atchison, KS), receiving his Bachelor’s in History, and then the University of Wisconsin (Madison), receiving his Master’s in Library Science. He went on to earn a Master’s in Church History from the Catholic University of America, and worked for almost 15 years at the Library of Congress.

He and I have been friends since we entered the seminary (Mt. St. Mary’s Seminary) together in 1996. He spent 3 years at the Mount, earning his and Master’s in Church History, and then went on to finish his seminary studies in Rome, living at the North American College. There he received his Bachelor’s in Sacred Theology and Licentiate in Sacred Theology (Spirituality) (a “licentiate” post-master’s/pre-doctorate 2-year academic degree) from the “Angelicum.” In 1997 he was ordained a priest by Cardinal James Hickey.

Monsignor served as parochial vicar in several parishes in Washington before being appointed Priest-Secretary to Cardinal William Baum. Card. Baum had retired in 2001, due to failing health and deteriorating sight, as the Prefect (head) of the Vatican’s Apostolic Penitentiary, but he remained an active member of several Vatican congregations, including the very important Congregation for Bishops, which is in charge of appointing Bishops. As his Secretary, Msgr. Dempsey was his right-hand man and worked and lived with the Cardinal, half the year in Rome and half the year in Washington.

The Cardinal retired from all his official duties in 2010, but remained active in the Church. Monsignor remained his secretary until the Cardinal’s death in 2015, when he was appointed, I believe, Assistant Archivist of the Archdiocese of Washington.

You can see that Monsignor is extremely intelligent and well-educated, holding two Bachelor’s degrees, three Master’s and a Licentiate. For fun, he also completed most of the work for a second Licentiate, in Canon Law. He retired from active ministry in 2020.

Clarification. Last week in the article “Making of a Saint” which I quoted at length, Msgr. Robert Sarno wrote that canonization “is an act of the infallible teaching authority of the Pope.” However, to my knowledge, this infallibility has never been officially defined, and many theologians and Cardinals would disagree, primarily because the Pope is only infallible in “matters of faith and morals,” and it is questionable whether the sanctity of a particular person falls under either of these categories.

Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles

MASS INTENTIONS**Monday, Sept. 19th**

6:30 am Msgr. Patrick Dempsey
8:30 am Mary Tiso & Angie DiClemente +

Tuesday, Sept. 20th

6:30 am Marilyn Krause
8:30 am John Spataro +

Wednesday, Sept. 21st

6:30 am Brenny Mantooth
8:30 am Ben Shealy

Thursday, Sept. 22nd

6:30 am Majel Wallen
8:30 am Blake Hoopes

Friday, Sept. 23rd

6:30 am Thomas Hall +
8:30 am Phyllis D. Deeney

Saturday, Sept. 24th

9:00 am Michael Frankfurth +

Vigil Mass

5:00 pm **Fr. Horkan**
Normand Bedard +

Sunday, Sept. 25th

7:00 am **Fr. Horkan**
Robert Ferguson +
9:00 am **Fr. De Celles**
Parishioners
11:00 am **Fr. Rippy**
Charles Greenfield Sr. +
1:00 pm **Fr. De Celles**
Family of Jesus Prayer Group

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

Please pray for the sick of our parish

Glenn Bliss	John Florio	Fr. Jerry Daly
Tom Dietz	Michael	Tom Swengros
Michael O'Neill	Malachowski	Margaret O'Neill
Cindy Laird	Debra Henkel	Christina
Patricia Lewis	Daniel Moore	Cautero
Mai Pham	Gaudencio Dizon	James Bowling
Joan Opiela	Paul Haynes	Lupe Bowling
Jason Saenz	Dwayne Taylor	Jim Kirsch
Phyllis Zitnik	Ted Tolpa	Larry McKinley
Patricia Del Buono	Nena Brennan	Carmen Schultz
Juanita Boarman	Serrin Foster	

Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church

Sept. 19	Family of Jesus Prayer Group
Sept. 19	RCIA Classes Begin, 7:30 pm
Sept. 20	Bible Study
Sept. 20	Choir Practice Begins
Sept. 21	Legion of Mary
Sept. 21	Adoration
Sept. 23	Adoration
Oct. 1	Men's Prayer Group
Oct. 1	Luminaries of Holy Mary
Oct. 2	Donut Sunday

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

straymonds.org

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

The 11th Annual PROJECT MANGER Fundraiser is NEXT weekend, September 24/25. Join St. Raymond's Knights of Columbus and the Pro-Life Committee in supporting Project Manger! After all the Masses next weekend, St. Raymond's will once again have the opportunity to support **Project Manger** which purchases new cribs and mattresses for moms and their babies in need. The new cribs and mattresses are distributed through "A Woman's Choice" Pro-Life Crisis Pregnancy Center in Falls Church. "A Woman's Choice" is a pro-life organization whose mission statement is "to love pregnant women so much so that abortion becomes an unthinkable option." Please prayerfully consider donating to this wonderful Pro-Life effort which is changing hearts and minds one mom and baby at a time. POC for this effort is John Crennan, 339-223-0887. This year's contributions can also be made throughout September and October using the Knights' QR Code included on today's bulletin insert.

September 30th Christ House Meal - Calling for volunteers to serve folks who are homeless and/or food insecure a meal at our Diocesan Christ House Dining Room in Alexandria. Sign up at the link below. Volunteers are needed to donate food for 72 servings. This month our menu includes fish sandwiches, home fries, a garden salad, and fruit. Or, if you prefer to donate time instead. Great! We need help preparing and distributing the in Alexandria on Friday, September 30. Check out the full menu and sign-up for your Corporal Act of Mercy opportunity at the Perfect Potluck link: <https://www.PerfectPotluck.com/RFHM0492>

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.

JOIN the CHOIR at St. Raymond's: Rehearsals resume on Sept. 20th! Singers who have a pleasant voice and sing in pitch are welcome. We practice on Tuesdays from 7:00 to 8:30 pm and sing at 11:00 am Mass on Sundays with a warm-up at 10 (starting 9/25). The choir also provides music for Easter, Christmas and Holy Days. The repertoire of the choir contains masterpieces of classical liturgical choir music. Enjoy wonderful fellowship, music training and the joy of making uplifting music for the liturgy. Contact Elisabeth Turco at music@straymonds.org or call 703-506-4644.

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

Endow Young Adult Women's Group

Are you looking to grow in faith and community with other young adult women of the parish? Soon the young adult women's Endow group will be starting a new study! The topic of our next study is *St. Hildegard--Discovering the Doctors of the Church*. For more information about ENDOW & this study, visit www.endowgroups.org. We will meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month from 6:30-8:30pm. Contact Theresa Tolpa at tctolpa159@gmail.com for more information.

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 **October 1**. All are welcome.



St. John Bosco Council #12846

Founded in 1882, the **Knights of Columbus** is an international Order of nearly two million Catholic men who are called to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others, and defend Catholic values in a changing world. Our organization's core principles are charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. To be eligible for membership, you must be a baptized Catholic male, 18 years of age or older, and a practicing Catholic in union with the Holy See.

Our local council, Saint John Bosco Council #12846, is over 250 members strong, and annually volunteers thousands of man-hours during charitable, fundraising events, which allows the donation of approximately \$60,000 towards a myriad of charitable causes (KOVAR, Coats for Kids, Global Wheelchair Program, Project Manger, Tepeyac Pregnancy Mobile Ultrasound, Vocations, Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Scholarship Fund, etc.). Our committees promote events in four areas: Life, Community, Family, and Faith to serve our Parish. You will also see many of our Knights supporting various other ministries within the Parish: Religious Education, Ushers, Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, etc. Additionally, various life insurance benefits and investment management are also available for members.

During the weekend of October 1-2, our council will be holding a membership drive after all Masses to seek out men who want to make a difference in our Parish and our community. If you would like to join today, simply go to "KofC.org/joinus" enter our council number (#12846), and fill out the form OR use this QR Code for ease of reference. Also feel free to contact our Membership Chairman, Deputy Grand Knight, Mark Menotti (mark.menotti@yahoo.com; 401-644-7128) with any questions. Give us a try—be part of the Brotherhood. The Knights' next meeting is on Monday Sept 19th at 7:30 in the Parish Hall- Rosary at 7pm.



Into the Breach Program. All Knights and all men of St. Raymond's Parish who are 18 or over are invited to attend the *Into the Breach* Program, inspired by the Apostolic Exhortation for Catholic men written by Bishop Olmsted of Phoenix. The Knights of Columbus produced a 12-part video series which seeks to answer the question of what it means to be a man in today's world. The goal of *Into the Breach* is to help men grow in their faith and become the men that God is calling them to be. Pre-registration is required and registration each month is limited to 20 attendees. Fellowship will follow the session. For more information please view the trailer at: <https://www.kofc.org/en/campaigns/into-the-breach.html>. For more information and to register, please contact Pat Franco at (703) 220-2403 or at popsfr8@aol.com.

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.

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

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. **Thank you for your continued generosity!** Join fellow parishioners who volunteer at the center. For more info, visit marih.org

Holy Hour for healing from abortion. All are welcome. **September 13th**, 7:30pm at St Leo Church in Fairfax. Confession available. Please come and spend time with the Lord in Eucharistic Adoration while praying for healing and conversion in families especially those affected by abortion.

Join Bishop Burbidge for Holy Mass in Thanksgiving for the Gift of Human Life on Saturday, **September 24, 2022**, at 8:30 am at St. James Catholic Church in Falls Church, VA. Holy Mass will be followed by a rosary at the abortion facility at 900 S. Washington St, Falls Church.

40 Days for Life. Fall 2022 Campaign begins on **September 28th**. Sign-ups in the narthex! Do you need a ride or a friend to witness with? Come and see! Contact Liz Hildebrand hildebrandseven@gmail.com.

Life Chain! Sunday October 2nd 2:30-3:30pm. Bring your family and friends for this peaceful, prayerful, silent witness. Our parish spot is in front of Key Middle School along Franconia Road in Alexandria. Park in their lot. Signs provided. (no victim images)

Post-abortion Healing Retreat (in English and Spanish) for women who have experienced abortion. **Saturday October 15th**. 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. Men suffering the effects of abortion, please call (703) 841-3833.

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

Tepeyac Pro Life OB/GYN: Transforming Hearts Through Healthcare. tepeyacobgyn.com 703-273-9440. Thank you for your referrals and your support.

Has the sorrow of miscarriage or still birth touched your life? **A Mom's Peace**, offers discreet support to families with bereavement, burial and remembrance assistance. Visit 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 For more info, contact them at 1-866-444-3553 or GabrielProject@arlingtondiocese.org

St. Raymond's Youth Apostolate

Youth Apostolate Participation (Grades 7-12)

2022-2023 YA Info Sheet - This form must be turned in annually for every child *prior* to participating in any Youth Apostolate function. Forms are by the YA bulletin board at church entrances and/or online at <http://bit.ly/YAforms>. Completed forms can be emailed to Jeanne at youth@straymonds.org or turned in to the main office.

Sunday 9/18: Youth Group & CCD (Parish Hall)

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

5:30-7pm 7-12th Grade CCD

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

There is no "registration" for youth group, however, all youth who are participating need to complete and turn in an annual YA Info Sheet. It's not too late to sign up for high school CCD! Our High School CCD program is like none other! Ask anyone who has participated...you'll want to check it out! No cost and no homework either :) Sign up at <https://bit.ly/CCDforMe>

Sons of Thunder: High School Guys' Group 6:30-8pm THURSDAY 9/ 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 meets the 2nd and 4th THURSDAY of each month from 6:30-8pm in the Maurer Room. Newcomers are always welcome! There will be food!



Talitha Koum: High School Girls' Group! 7-8:30pm TUESDAY, September 27 (Maurer Room)

All 9-12th grade girls are invited to join in cultivating an authentic community, friendships, and space to share our faith as together we learn and encourage one another in ways to practically apply the faith to our daily lives. Talitha Koum meets the 2nd & 4th TUESDAY of each month in the Maurer Room from 7-8:30pm. All high school ladies are welcome!! Our September and October meetings will be a great time to get to know one another. Our first project will be building little caskets to donate to a Mom's Peace, a Manassas based apostolate supporting mothers of miscarried and stillborn souls. (See pic above of the Sons of Thunder working on this same project, which they came up with last year.)

Jeanne Sause

Director of the Youth Apostolate (Grades 7-12)

youth@straymonds.org Call/Text: 571-334-9890

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

HIGH SCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Sunday evenings 5:30 - 7 p.m.

We have EXCEPTIONAL teachers who are dedicated to providing your high school student with advanced knowledge in areas such as science and Faith, bioethics, history and Scripture. There is no cost to enroll your child in these interactive classes and there are no homework assignments.

Please consider registering your high school student today using:

- the bright blue registration forms in the Narthex, at the RE office or at the parish office
- online link:

<https://straymonds.org/religious-education/registration-3/>

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. Any questions, contact Mary Hansen at 703-440-0537.

Home School Group: for more information visit our website www.homeschool-life.com/va/straymondhsg/
Contact: Katherine Bogacki or Malia Cameron at straymondhsg@gmail.com.

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 19, 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.

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.

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 October 1. For more information, call Dave Wilson, 703-966-5327.

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. Please contact the parish office to learn more.

Church Persecuted

Last week, we introduced Daniel Penne-ton's article in *The Atlantic* "How Extremist Gun Culture is trying to Co-opt the Rosary" (8/14/2022). He writes that "the rosary has acquired a militaristic meaning for radical-traditional... Catholics." He cites Pope Francis saying "There is no path to holiness... without spiritual combat." He notes that Pope Francis endorses the use of the rosary as an "armament in that fight." Cherry-picking quotes, he noted that the commander of the Swiss Guard called the rosary "the most powerful weapon that exists on the market."

Either Penne-ton's article is written as a joke or written by someone who really doesn't "get it." Spiritual warfare is a real thing and, yes, our most potent weapon is the rosary. Last Sunday was surrounded by Marian feasts, the 8th being the Nativity of Mary, the 12th being the Most Holy Name of Mary, and the 15th being Our Lady of Sorrows. It's a spiritual battle, one which is fought by three fingers moving over one bead after another, invoking Our Lady to "pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death." In *Spiritual Combat*, Dom Lorenzo Scupoli writes in 1589 for us to "[a]ppeal to the Blessed Virgin herself, reminding her of her commission... to be the Mother of Mercy and the refuge of sinners..." Let us use our weapons (either concealed or open) to fight Satan and all his evil minions.

Help Wanted at St. Bernadette's. Saint Bernadette Catholic School in Springfield has immediate openings for their after-school extended day program. Employees should enjoy working with children and able to supervise a group of 20. Work hours are 3-6 pm on school days M,T, Th, F, 2-6 pm on Wednesdays, and 11:00 am -6 pm on half days. If interested, please contact our assistant principal kbrinley@stbernschool.org or call 703 451 8696.

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).

FORMED

Get In-Formed!

Pornography Proofing Your Kids – Of all the topics that Steve Wood would like to talk about, pornography is his least favorite. However, looking at the statistics of how many people use pornography and knowing the addictive nature and harmful effects to families and society, he feels he must keep the conversation going. And though there really isn't any foolproof method to keep your children from porn, Steve has found some effective strategies that moms can employ to help limit or lessen the chances for exposure to pornography.

Steve has led youth, campus, evangelistic, prison, and pro-life ministries. He has written many books for Catholic families including, *Legacy: A Father's Handbook for Raising Godly Children*. He is the host of "Faith & Family" weekly radio broadcasts, one of the longest running shows on Catholic radio.

Watch now at www.straymonds.formed.org

The best Catholic content in one place - movies, programs, talks, dramas, & ebooks—just one click away!

Questions? Need help? Email us at: formed@straymonds.org



Angelus Academy

Where the Truth of Catholic teaching takes flesh in the lives of Pre-K - 8th graders and their families.

Celebrate Taco Tuesday and help support Angelus Academy! On **Tuesday, September 20th, Taco Bamba in Springfield** (6691A Backlick Rd) has generously agreed to provide us with 20% of sales when **Angelus Academy is mentioned at checkout**. This is a great opportunity to pick up lunch or dinner and support the school!

www.AngelusAcademy.org, 703-924-3996
7644 Dynatech Ct., Springfield, VA 22153

ECHO needs your help!! Since reopening after Covid, the donations to our Housewares Department have lessened, and the number of clients in need have increased. We are in need of 2qt and 3qt saucepans with lids, 6-8 qt large pots with lids, and large frying pans 10-12". These can be new or "gently used." Other items in Housewares which are always needed are queen sheets and comforters, and bath towels.

For those parishioners who may not know, ECHO (Ecumenical Community Helping Others) is an all-volunteer charity which helps families in need in the Springfield/Burke area. St.

Raymond's is one of 26 religious congregations that support ECHO and have a representative on its Board of Directors. These congregations support ECHO with donations, food drives, and more than 400 volunteers.

Volunteers are always needed, as well as donations of food, clothing, housewares, and financial aid. Please consider helping our parish help ECHO. For more information, go to the website at echo-inc.org. Donation hours are M-F 9:30am-12:30pm, T/Th nights 7-9pm, and the first Saturday of the month 9:30am-noon.

All donations are most welcome and appreciated! You can contact our Board Representative, Kathy Siner, at 703-405-8164 with questions.

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

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Sunday Offertory	\$ 20,725.00
Family Assistance	\$ 544.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 828.00
Our Lady of Ransom Catholic	
School Scholarship Donations	\$ 867.00
St. Raymond Religious Education	\$ 2,213.00

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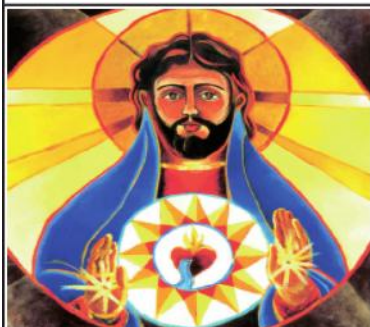
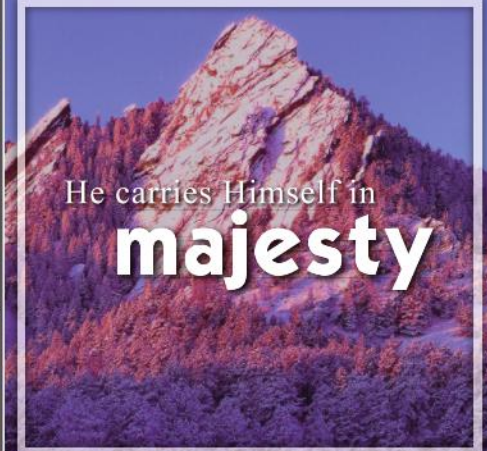
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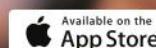
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