



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

OCTOBER: THE ROSARY AND RESPECT LIFE. October is dedicated to both the Rosary and Pro-Life. So this month, pray the Rosary, especially for the Pro-Life cause.

DAILY ROSARY. I invite you all to come to pray the Rosary with your family, other families and/or other members of our parish family, here IN OUR CHURCH EVERY EVENING AT 6:30 PM DURING THIS MONTH OF OCTOBER. Individual families have signed up for each night to lead the rosary, but all present will pray together. The Rosary will be informal: there will be no Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, but of course Jesus will be in the Tabernacle, and we will just pray the Rosary aloud and together. No fuss or ceremony, just prayer.

Additionally, we still have a few evenings needing families to volunteer to lead. Please, prayerfully consider signing up to “lead” by going to our parish website, and clicking on the link on the pop-up, “Sign Up For October Daily Family Rosary In Church.”

Although I will join you on many of these evenings, I will not lead the Rosary, as this is part of my effort to add some simple ways to help you grow spiritually in prayer without the necessary participation of a priest.

Respect Life. Even though *Roe v. Wade* has finally been overturned, we must continue our Pro-Life activities unabated as long as there are laws and strong movements supporting abortion.

Life Chain Today. Today, as in the past, over 100 St. Raymond parishioners will join other local pro-lifers lining up on the sidewalk of Franconia Road in front of Key Middle School from 2:30 to 3:30 PM to simply stand peacefully and quietly praying, maybe holding a sign, as a public witness to our respect for the dignity of human life. Please join in. Parking is available at the school, and Pro-Life signs will be available.

40 Days for Life. The Fall “40 Days for Life” Campaign, a similar but more prolonged public witness to the right to life, has already begun, and St. Raymond’s will once again take part. Please visit the table with a display and sign-up sheets in the narthex this weekend and sign up. St. Raymond’s has committed to keep the following Vigil hours: Every Friday from 10am – noon; Saturday November 5 from noon-7pm; Sunday November 6 from 9am-3pm.

Recent Pro-Abort News.

FBI Raid on Pro-Life Family. (As reported by “the Daily Signal”): “In an early morning raid Friday [Sept. 22] in Kintnersville, Pennsylvania, about two dozen FBI agents with weapons drawn pounded on the door of Mark Houck’s home, where he lives with his wife and seven children.

“The FBI agents arrested Houck based on a federal indictment. Sounds serious, right?...Not even close. Houck is a pro-life activist and president of The King’s Men, a Catholic ministry. He has no prior criminal record. He was arrested Friday morning for an alleged violation of the federal Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act, known as the FACE Act....

“Houck apparently would regularly drive ...to a Planned Parenthood clinic in Philadelphia to pray and speak outside the facility...The federal indictment claims that almost a year ago, Houck ‘verbally confronted’ and ‘shoved’ an escort for an abortion patient ‘to the ground’ and ‘intentionally injured, intimidated and interfered’ with the escort.

“What the indictment fails to mention...is that on multiple occasions this pro-abortion escort said ‘crude ... inappropriate and disgusting things’ to the Houcks’ son... Houck

kept telling the escort to stop harassing his son...but the escort refused to stop and when the foul-mouthed vulgarian got too close to his son, Houck protected him by shoving the escort away. ...

“The incident occurred Oct. 21, 2021. The assault claim against Houck is so weak that ...Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner....refuse[d] to file any misdemeanor charges against Houck....

“Now, almost a year later, the FBI shows up at Houck’s home in force and the Justice Department charges him with two felonies for an injury that required a Band-Aid. His conviction could result...in a maximum penalty of ‘11 years in prison, three years of supervised release and fines of up to \$350,000.’”

President Biden. (As reported by ‘Catholic News Agency’): “President Joe Biden on Thursday appeared to suggest — erroneously — that the Catholic Church makes exceptions for rape and incest in its condemnation of abortion.

“Biden made the remarks at a fundraising event...while discussing a Republican-backed congressional bill to ban abortions after 15 weeks into pregnancy. The president incorrectly said the bill has no exceptions for rape and incest.

“‘You have Lindsey Graham of South Carolina and others talking about how they’re gonna you know, make sure that Roe is forever gone and Dobbs becomes a national law,’ Bloomberg quoted the president saying.

“‘Talk about, what, no exceptions. Rape, incest, no exceptions....Now, I’m gonna deal with my generic point. I happen to be a practicing Roman Catholic, my Church doesn’t even make that argument’...”

“...[A]ny implication that the Catholic Church makes exceptions where abortion is concerned is incorrect. ‘Since the first century the Church has affirmed the moral evil of every procured abortion,’ the Catechism of the Catholic Church states. ‘This teaching has not changed and remains unchangeable. Direct abortion, that is to say, abortion willed as an end or a means, is gravely contrary to the moral law’ (No. 2271).

“The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops also has addressed the difficult situation of a pregnancy conceived in rape... ‘(A)ny child conceived in rape is, like his or her mother, an innocent victim. That child, too, has a right to life’...”

“Fetal Heartbeat ‘Manufactured.’ (As reported by ‘The Washington Examiner’): “Georgia Democrat Stacey Abrams’s assertion this week that a baby’s heartbeat at six weeks in utero does not exist and that women who hear it at their doctor’s office are hearing a ‘manufactured sound’ touched off an emotional debate about fetal development....

“Abrams made the comments at an event in Atlanta on Tuesday, at which she argued the sound of a heartbeat doctors show to parents is ‘designed to convince people that men have the right to take control of a woman’s body.’

“At six weeks, experts say a fetus’s heart development is underway and that its heart muscle is beginning to form....

“‘Between 5 ½ to 6 ½ weeks, a fetal pole or even a fetal heartbeat may be detected by vaginal ultrasound,’ the American Pregnancy Association notes....

“Johns Hopkins Medicine states on its website that the ‘heart is beating’ for a fetus by ‘the end of four weeks’...

“Other doctors have said that because the fetal heart at six weeks does not yet have valves, it is not operating in the sense that is typically associated with a heartbeat...

“‘The flickeringis actually electrical activity...’ Dr. Nisha Verma, an abortion-focused obstetrician-gynecologist...told NPR in May.

“Electrical activity is also what causes an adult’s heart to beat, according to the Mayo Clinic....”

Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles

MASS INTENTIONS**Monday, Oct. 3rd**

6:30 am Karen Popp
8:30 am Otis Shealy +

Tuesday, Oct. 4th

6:30 am Kathleen Spear +
8:30 am Geoffrey Bald +

Wednesday, Oct. 5th

6:30 am Robert B. Dinh
8:30 am Joe and Laura
Schweitzer

Thursday, Oct. 6th

6:30 am MG Story Stevens +
8:30 am Carol Ann Sliwka +

Friday, Oct. 7th

6:30 am Joseph & Margaret
Maines
8:30 am Daniel Fletcher +

Saturday, Oct. 8th

9:00 am Robert Ferguson +

Vigil Mass

5:00 pm **Fr. Horkan**
Pauline & Walter Rizzardi +

Sunday, Oct. 9th

7:00 am **Fr. Rippy**
Joseph Healy Sr. +
9:00 am **Fr. De Celles**
Parishioners
11:00 am **Fr. De Celles**
Steve Schoener +
1:00 pm **Fr. Horkan**
Jonathan & Kara
Perricone

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

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

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

Gather, Pro-life Prayer Warriors! This weekend is the 35th annual Life Chain: Sunday Oct 2nd from 2:30-3:30. Park at Key Middle School 6402 Franconia Rd, Springfield. Join others all across the nation for this annual peaceful prayerful witness. Non-graphic signs provided. Bring a friend! For more info, contact Liz Hildebrand at hildebrandseven@gmail.com or visit lifechain.org.

Blessing of the Animals: In honor of the feast of St. Francis, we will have the annual Blessing of the Animals **Saturday, October 8th at noon** in front of the rectory.

October Daily Family Rosary. October is the month of the rosary! Every evening during the month of October St. Raymond's will have a Daily Family Rosary in the church, at 6:30pm. All are invited to attend, but we ask for **one family to volunteer to lead** the rosary each evening.

VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE: St Raymond's will host a Voter Registration Drive after Masses during the weekends of Oct. 1-2 and 8-9. The registration deadline is October 17, so do not delay! The safest way to vote absentee is in-person at one of the many satellite locations, because no mail is involved! Information will be available at the table or on <https://straymonds.org>.

Oktoberfest 2022. The Knights of Columbus will host their annual Oktoberfest on Saturday, **October 22, from 6:30 to 9:00 pm** in the Parish Hall. Tickets will be available in the Narthex after all Masses on the weekends of October 8/9 and 15/16 for cash and check sales. Come join in the fun and fellowship of our Catholic community! Additionally, credit/debit card sales will be available through a QR code on next weekend's bulletin insert. Proceeds will to the "Our Lady of Ransom" Scholarship Fund for Catholic Education. The Chairman of this event is Mr. Patrick Franco.

Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church

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|-----------------|--|
| Oct. 1-2 | KofC Membership Drive |
| Oct. 2 | Donut Sunday |
| Oct. 3 | Family of Jesus Prayer Group |
| Oct. 3 | RCIA Class |
| Oct. 4 | Bible Study |
| Oct. 4 | Choir Practice |
| Oct. 5 | Legion of Mary |
| Oct. 5 | Adoration |
| Oct. 7 | Adoration |
| Oct. 8 | Blessing of the Animals at noon |
| Oct. 10 | Columbus Day Holiday –One Mass at 10 am Parish Offices are Closed. No CCD Classes Oct. 9-11 for the Holiday |
| Oct. 14 | Book Club |
| Oct. 22 | Men's Prayer Group (Note date change) |

Donut Sunday Returns TODAY (Oct. 2) after the 7:00, 9:00, and 11:00 AM Masses. Stop by the Parish Hall after Mass to enjoy some treats and drinks and meet your fellow parishioners. October's Donut Sunday will be hosted by our Pro-Life Group & our Library Volunteers.

Gift Shop: Bible and Book Sale -October 15-16 in the Narthex. Fall is the perfect time to curl up with a good book! We have many hard or soft covers, large print Bibles, and a beautifully illustrated family Bible that would make a great gift! Also in stock are other titles, including children's books, from well-known religious scholars/authors to further educate yourself in the faith.

Saint Raymond's is seeking a Business Manager/Bookkeeper. Responsibilities include: bookkeeping, financial and personnel record keeping and policy compliance. Bookkeeping experience required. Experience in Parish Data System and Microsoft Office Suite preferred. Interested applicants should send resume to mary.butler@straymonds.org or call Mary Butler at 703-440-0535 for more information about the position.

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.



St. John Bosco Council #12846

Founded in 1882, the **Knights of Columbus** is an international Order of nearly two million Catholic men. 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 is over 250 members strong, and volunteers thousands of man-hours during charitable fundraising events, which raise about \$60,000 towards a myriad of charitable causes each year. Our committees promote events in four areas: Life, Community, Family, and Faith to serve our Parish. Additionally, various life insurance benefits and investment management are 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.

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, a video series, inspired by the Apostolic Exhortation for Catholic men written by Bishop Olmsted of Phoenix. 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. **The next session, on "Brotherhood," will be on October 15 from 10-12 in the Maurer Room.** 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.

Men's Day of Recollection, Oct. 29. "PRESENCE, SACRIFICE & COMMUNION: The Eucharist as the Cure for the Cult of Unreality." What is the connection between the decline in belief in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist and the current alienation from biological and moral realities? How should a Catholic man respond to issues in our culture? **The 24th Annual Christ the King Men's Day of Recollection, directed by The Very Reverend Paul D. Scalia, will be held on Sat. Oct. 29 from 9:15am-1:15pm at St. Raymond of Peñafort.** There is no charge for this event, **but you must register before Oct. 22 to attend.** Donations gratefully accepted. To register go to www.waywomen.com/mensretreat For more information, contact Robin Maas at rmvmaas@gmail.com.

We are Looking for Families for our Christmas Giving Tree. Each year, St. Raymond's "adopts" families who need help with Christmas. If your family, or someone you know could use help providing gifts for their children, please let the parish office know. The information is kept completely confidential! The office phone number is 703-440-0535.

JOIN the CHOIR at St. Raymond's: Rehearsals have resumed! 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. The choir also provides music for Easter, Christmas and Holy Days. Contact Elisabeth Turco at music@straymonds.org or call 703-506-4644.

SAINT RAYMOND'S RESPECTS LIFE

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

Life Chain! TODAY! 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) lifechain.org.

Coming October 3 and 4 to a theater near you:
Mother Teresa No Greater Love fathomevents.com/events/Mother-Teresa-No-Greater-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. **Our next support weekend is October 15/16. Thank you for your continued generosity!** Join fellow parishioners who volunteer at the center. For more info, visit marih.org

40 Days for Life. Fall 2022 Campaign began on **September 28th** and continues till Nov 6th. This is a period of time dedicated to extra prayer and fasting to end abortion in our country. Please consider fasting, adding an extra rosary to your routine or attending an extra weekly Mass. We will also participate in a time of peaceful prayer and public witness at the Falls Church Women's Healthcare Center. 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.

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.

Natural Family Planning (NFP) respects the **love-giving** (unitive) and **life-giving** (procreative) nature of the conjugal act, God's design for married love. Visit: www.arlingtondiocese.org/family-life/marriage/natural-family-planning/

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 10/2: 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>

Friday, October 7th (Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary)

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

All high school teens are invited to join us Friday mornings for 6:30am Mass followed by breakfast with Fr. Horkan in the parish hall. If you RSVP a week ahead, we can coordinate our volunteers to drive you to school. If not, you are welcome to just show up for Mass and have your parent drive you to school after breakfast! RSVP to youth@straymonds.org.

***Adults: Are you a morning person? We are looking for a new volunteers** to help coordinate setting up and serving our high school breakfasts on Friday mornings. Please consider this worthy investment in our incredible teens! Email Jeanne if you are interested in more information.

Sons of Thunder: High School Guys' Group 6:30-8pm THURSDAY 10/13 (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!

October is the Month of the Rosary!

In her various apparitions, the Blessed Mother has repeatedly begged us to pray the Rosary, an exhortation echoed by Popes and Saints for centuries. And one of the best ways to pray the Rosary is as a family—it can be a tremendous blessing. With this in mind, every evening during the month of October, St. Raymond's will have a Daily Family Rosary in the church, Sunday - Saturday, at 6:30pm. All are invited and encouraged to attend!

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

THANK YOU to everyone who attended the parent meetings this past week. If you did not attend, please be sure to read the Parent Handbook which was emailed to you on September 7th and let us know if you have any questions.

Also, if you missed the meeting and you have a child preparing to receive a sacrament (grades 2 and 7) please come by the RE office to pick up a folder with important information and required forms. If you have a child in 8th grade who was not registered in the RE program last year, you will need to come and pick up a folder. If you are unsure of your status, please call the office for information.

HELP NEEDED: Assistant teacher for RCIC class (grades 5-7) on Mondays 4:45-6:15. Contact the RE office if you are interested in helping out.

Planning ahead: There will be no CCD classes NEXT WEEK October 9, 10 or 11 in observance of the Columbus Day holiday.

Please note: Instead of hosting our annual Parish Holy Hour and Rosary (scheduled for Thursday October 13th) you are asked to participate in the Daily Family Rosary in our church, Sunday - Saturday, at 6:30 p.m. during the month of October. See information in this week's bulletin or Father De Celles' column last week.

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.

Book Club: The parish Book Club will next meet on Friday, October 14, at 10:00 AM in the St Raymond Library to discuss "Christ versus Satan in our Daily Lives: The Cosmic Struggle Between Good and Evil" by Fr Robert Spitzer, S.J. A full list of books to be read and discussed during the period from Sept 2022 to June 2023 is included in the Book Club section of the parish website. New members are welcome. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Mault at bookclub@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 Oct. 22 due to a scheduling conflict. For more information, call Dave Wilson, 703-966-5327.

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!

Church Persecuted

In spite of Church persecutions around the world, the Holy Trinity remains an active influence in the Church and the world today. On Sept. 19, we celebrated the feast of St. Januarius, a martyred archbishop of Naples who died around 305 A.D. At his death, a woman gathered some of his blood and placed it in two ampoules.

Reports dating back to 1389 indicate that three times a year, the blood liquefies: on the saint's feast day (Sept. 19), the first Saturday of May, and Dec. 16, and later on the anniversary of the 1631 eruption of Mount Vesuvius. "In Neapolitan lore, the failure of the blood to liquefy signals war, famine, disease, or natural disasters." This year, on Sept. 19th the blood liquefied. The Church believes that the blood miraculously liquefies in response to the dedication and prayers of the faithful.

Usually on the given day, the Archbishop gathers one of the ampoules. Sometimes it takes minutes and sometimes hours to liquefy the solidified blood. He then rotates it sideways to show that it is a liquid. The Archbishop and the faithful then pray for St. Januarius to intercede for their needs.

There is no scientific explanation for this phenomena. In some years, the blood did not liquefy. It did not liquefy in September 1939, 1940, 1943, 1973, 1980 nor in December 2016 and 2020. These miracles are a means of giving us hope that the Holy Spirit is still with us in this world. St. Januarius is the patron saint of blood donors.

<https://www.CatholicNewsAgency.com> (Sept. 19, 2022)

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 or James Kolakoski at 703-455-3009 bridgeclub402@gmail.com if you are interested in joining us.

Divine Intimacy Retreat, November 4, 2022. All married couples are invited to join us for an incredible retreat weekend Fri. Nov. 4 through Sun. Nov. 6, 2022 led by Dan and Stephanie Burke. Dan is the author and editor of more than 15 books on authentic Catholic spirituality. He and Stephanie host the weekly Divine Intimacy Radio show on EWTN Radio. The Divine Intimacy Retreat is designed to draw married couples more deeply into communion with God and each other. Register at <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/divineintimacyretreat/>

FORMED
Get In-Formed!

Just for Kids! JoyToons, The Brother Francis Song Collection! - Join the ever-joyful Brother Francis as he teaches children about the blessings that come when heart and mind are filled with praise for God and thoughts of his love for us. Children will learn what the Bible has to say about singing and music. This special episode includes visualized songs from Brother Francis episodes 1-9 along with short, thought-provoking quotes from the saints.

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.

Open Houses at Angelus Academy, where the Truth of Catholic teaching takes flesh in the lives of Pre-K - 8th graders and their families.

Come see Catholic liberal arts education in the classical tradition! Join one of our open house sessions on Friday evenings, October 21 and January 27, 4:00-7:00pm and on Saturday, January 28, 10:00am-2:00pm.

Email Julie Maimone, Director of Admissions, at Admissions@angelusacademy.org for more information.

We are now accepting applications for 2023-24.

Visit angelusacademy.org/admissions-overview/applying/

www.AngelusAcademy.org, 703-924-3996
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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.

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.

FAITH DIRECT SEPTEMBER COLLECTION

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Offertory | \$ 43,434.00 |
| Family Assistance | \$ 2,064.00 |
| Maintenance Fund | \$ 5,539.00 |
| Our Lady Of Ransom Catholic | |
| School Scholarships | \$ 6,585.00 |
| Religious Education | \$ 1,284.00 |
| Catholic University | \$ 575.00 |

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Sunday Offertory | \$ 12,960.00 |
| Family Assistance | \$ 361.00 |
| Maintenance Fund | \$ 812.00 |
| Our Lady of Ransom Catholic | |
| School Scholarship Donations | \$ 5,686.00 |

The second collection next week is the Porto Charities Special Kids, Special Needs Collection. The funds from this collection support special education programs for God's Special Children. Please be generous.

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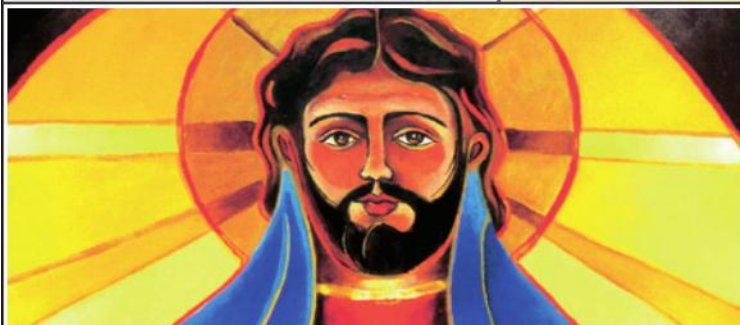
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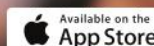
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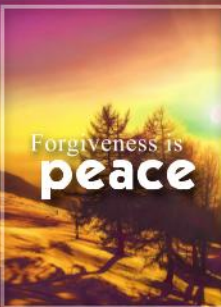
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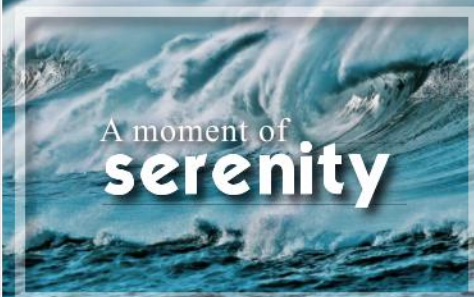
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