



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

DAILY ROSARY. I invite you all to come to pray the Rosary with your family and other members of our parish, here IN OUR CHURCH EVERY EVENING AT 6:30PM DURING THIS MONTH OF OCTOBER. Individual families have signed up for each night to lead the rosary, but all present will pray together.

Although I will join you on some 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.

Back to School. Some things for public school parents to remember and know as we move ahead in the school year.

Fairfax Public Schools. Remember to stand strong in your Catholic Faith and common sense, especially against the brainwashing of the secular elites who want to bully you into supporting sexual promiscuity, same-sex sexual relationships, the transgender agenda, and abortion. In this regard, please (parents) consider "OPT-ing OUT" of the schools' Family Life Education (FLE), at least those parts that specifically seek to undermine what we teach our kids about the true meaning of family life. Also, be supportive of good teachers and administrators who are trying to live their Christian faith and use common reason in the schools. Many of our parishioners work and teach in FCPS trying to do the Lord's work. So support them, with your kindness and with your prayers.

New Virginia "Model Policies." Thanks be to God, Governor Youngkin's administration has issued new rules to rein in the Leftist activists in our government run schools. According to the "Daily Wire":

"In 2020... Democrats ...passed a law requiring that school districts adopt policies consistent with a state document called Model Policies for the Treatment of Transgender Students in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools. ...Now, the law itself remains in effect, but the policies it refers to have been replaced by very different ones.

"The 2021 Model Policiesaimed at achieving cultural and social transformation in schools.... [It] also disregarded the rights of parents and ignored other legal and constitutional principles that significantly impact how schools educate students, including transgender students. ...the Department hereby withdraws the 2021 Model Policies,' officials said in the new policy.

"The old model policy said schools should 'eliminate gender-based practices' to avoid leaving out transgender students... [For example] father-daughter dances and homecoming kings and queens ...It spelled out how school districts should create gay clubs, allow for transgender students to share bunks with children of the opposite biological sex during sleepaway events, and ordered teachers to be trained to be 'LGBT+ affirming.'

"....School divisions should accept a student's assertion of their gender identity without requiring any particular substantiating evidence,' it said. ...

"It described how to hide the gender transitioning of children from their parents, saying 'a plan may include addressing the student at school with their name and pronoun consistent with their gender identity while using the legal name and pronoun associated with the sex assigned at birth when communicating with parents.'

"Other references to parents appeared to refer to using taxpayer money to try to change the social beliefs of adults. It called for 'Strategies to engage parents and other stakeholders regarding an inclusive school community that affirms LGBTQ+ students' and promoting 'LGBTQ+-affirming resources for students and families'...

"The new draft policy — which will go into effect at the end of October — is far different... 'The First Amendment forbids government actors to require individuals to adhere to ...particular ideological beliefs,' it said. 'The U.S. Constitution, the Virginia Constitution, federal law, state law, and relevant case law place

beyond debate the rights of parents to be informed about their children and the limitations of government to usurp parents' rightful role....'

"It said a student can only change his or her name with the permission of a parent, and that the 'phrase 'transgender student' shall mean a ...student whose parent has requested in writing...that their child be identified while at school.'

"'[School Division] personnel shall refer to each student using only (i) the name that appears in the student's official record, or (ii) ...using any nickname commonly associated with the name that appears in the student's official record,' it said.

"It bans teachers from using pronouns or names which are not in the student's official record, and teachers and other students cannot be compelled to 'address or refer to students in any manner that would violate their constitutionally protected rights.' And 'No policy, guidance, training, or other written material issued by the [School Division] may encourage or instruct teachers to conceal material information about a student from the student's parent.'

"'Overnight travel accommodations, locker rooms, and other intimate spaces used for school-related activities and events shall be based on sex,' the policy said. 'For any athletic program or activity that is separated by sex, the appropriate participation of students shall be determined by sex.'

"By law, school districts are required to adopt policies similar to the state model policy...

"The new document was created under Superintendent of Public Instruction Jillian Balow and Assistant Superintendent Elizabeth Schultz, a Republican who was on the Fairfax County School Board..."

Polygamy is Next. I hate to say I told you so, but... You may have read about the New York State Judge who ruled that polygamous marriage is legal. As Tony Perkins reports:

"The decision by trial court judge Karen May Bacdayan ... essentially gave New York's blessing to polyamorous unions in her September decision, declaring that '... the problem with [previous same-sex marriage rulings] is that they recognize only two-person relationships'...

"Bacdayan pointed to two...cases, New York's Braschi v. Stahl and SCOTUS's Obergefell v. Hodges, explaining that both major rulings 'limit their holdings to two-person relationships.' ... [B]ut they 'still adhered to the majoritarian, societal view that only two people can have a family-like relationship.' ...As far as she's concerned, Braschi and Obergefell 'open[ed] the door for consideration of other relational constructs — and perhaps,' the judge insisted, 'the time has arrived.'

"...Bacdayan pointed out...Chief Justice John Roberts's... dissent [in Obergefell]. 'Although the majority randomly inserts the adjective 'two' in various places,' Roberts wrote, 'it offers no reason at all why the two-person element of the core definition of marriage may be preserved while the man-woman element may not... If not having the opportunity to marry serves to disrespect and subordinate gay and lesbian couples, why wouldn't ...this disability... serve to disrespect and subordinate people who find fulfillment in polyamorous relationships?'

"Only 'implicit majoritarian animus' would limit the definition of commitment to two people, Bacdayan argued.

"...The media laughed off the conservative movement's concerns about the slippery slope...20 years ago. Now, almost two decades later, with ...judges paving the way for 'plural marriage,' it unfortunately proves we were right. The LGBT's fight was never about marriage — it was about every social norm.

Welcome Back, Choir. I have forgotten to welcome back our choir after their summer off. Thanks to all choir members for all you do to add beauty to the celebration of our parish worship.

But we still need more singers. Please consider contacting Elisabeth Turco (our choir director) to talk about joining the choir (703-506-4644, turcoe@aol.com).

Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles

MASS INTENTIONS

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| Monday, Oct. 10th Columbus Day 10:00 am Christopher Anezin | Saturday, Oct. 15th 9:00 am Christopher J. Menotti + |
| Tuesday, Oct. 11th 6:30 am Cassie Billedeau–Stratton + 8:30 am Vince Nelly Drouillard | Vigil Mass 5:00 pm Fr. De Celles Miriam F. Watanabe + |
| Wednesday, Oct. 12th 6:30 am Luc Nguyen 8:30 am Special Intention | Sunday, Oct. 16th 7:00 am Fr. De Celles Rebecca Ellis and Family + 9:00 am Fr. De Celles Parishioners 11:00 am Fr. Rippy Bob Ferguson + 1:00 pm Fr. Horkan RE Catechists & their Families |
| Thursday, Oct. 13th 6:30 am Dr. Michael Hurley + 8:30 am Lawrence Ehorn + | |
| Friday, Oct. 14th 6:30 am George Elliot + 8:30 am Christopher G. Peters + | |

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

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**, and we ask for one family to volunteer to lead the rosary each evening.

VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE after Masses this weekend. 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. Additionally, credit/debit card sales will be available through a QR code on next weekend's bulletin insert. Come join in the fun and fellowship of our Catholic community! Proceeds will go to the "Our Lady of Ransom" Scholarship Fund for Catholic Education. The Chairman of this event is Mr. Patrick Franco.

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 Eucharist and the current alienation from biological and moral realities? **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.

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.

Please pray for the sick of our parish

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

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| Oct. 10 | Columbus Day Holiday –One Mass at 10 am Parish Offices are Closed. No CCD Classes Oct. 9-11 for the Holiday |
| Oct. 11 | Bible Study |
| Oct. 12 | Legion of Mary |
| Oct. 12 | Adoration |
| Oct. 14 | Adoration |
| Oct. 14 | Book Club |
| Oct. 15 | Confirmation Retreat |
| Oct. 22 | Men's Prayer Group (Note date change) |
| Oct. 22 | Oktoberfest |
| Oct. 29 | Men's Day of Recollection |

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.

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.

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.

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.



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. If you would like to join today, simply go to "KofC.org/joinus" enter our council number (#12846), and fill out the form. Also feel free to contact our Membership Chairman, Deputy Grand Knight, Mark Menotti (mark.menotti@yahoo.com; 401-644-7128) with any questions.

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.

KofC Youth Soccer Challenge: The KofC of Northern Virginia are sponsoring a Soccer Challenge which will be held on Saturday, October 15th (9am - 2pm) in the field behind Holy Spirit School in Annandale, VA 22003. Contestants may compete anytime between 9 am and 2 pm for the most goals. Water and light refreshments will be offered (free of charge) and all contestants will receive a certificate of participation with winners receiving a medallion and champion certificate from St. John Bosco Council at a later date. If you are interested in participating, please contact Barry Ryan (jamesbarryryan@aol.com, 703-344-4381).

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, or call / text 703-627-7320.

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).

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 to verify your email address.

SAINT RAYMOND'S RESPECTS LIFE

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

Life Chain! **THANK YOU** to all who participated in the annual Life Chain! *Peaceful, prayerful, silent witness is so powerful.* Hundreds of passersby saw the message of the sanctity of life because of you.

TODAY! National Rosary Rally schedule and DC Mall location available at: rosarycoasttocoast.com/national-rosary-rally "I whole heartedly endorse the Novena and Rosary Rally... I urge as many as are able to participate in these great spiritual works for the sake of our entire nation." **Cardinal Raymond Burke**

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 is underway!* and continues until 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.

Save the date: Wed Nov 9th at 7pm. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered at St Raymond's for our children who have preceded us into eternity, especially those who have died in the womb. Kara Palladino from **A Mom's Peace** will be available to visit and answer questions in the narthex after Mass. **A Mom's Peace**, offers discreet support to families with bereavement, burial and remembrance assistance. amomspeace.org

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.

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 must be turned in annually for every child *prior* to participating in any Youth Apostolate function. Forms are by the YA bulletin board at the 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.

NO Youth Group or CCD this Sunday 10/9.

We will resume next Sunday, 10/16.

Sunday 10/16: 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)

Friday, October 14th

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.

Talitha Koum: High School Girls' Group!

7-8:30pm TUESDAY 10/11 (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 October meetings will be building little caskets to donate to a Mom's Peace, a Manassas based apostolate supporting mothers of miscarried and stillborn souls.

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!

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 encouraged to join us.

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

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

Please note: There will be no CCD classes THIS 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' recent column.

Planning ahead: Even though FCPS has student holidays scheduled for October 24 and 31; **THERE WILL BE CCD classes on both of these days.**

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 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.* 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 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!

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.

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.

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.

Church Persecuted

Required reading for students at most government schools is generally void of anything specifically Catholic. The cancel culture in which we live is cancelling anything which promotes the truth, goodness, and beauty of the world, while promoting gender ideology and critical race theory. Catholic literature selections should focus on promoting the truth, beauty, and goodness of the human person and world that God created around us. They should bring the light of Christ into the world and not merely focus on the latest cultural fad.

"One powerful reason that Catholic educators [and parents] should select enduring works of literature is because literature has the potential to break students free from the culture and circumstances that may bind and/or blind them."

While today's school libraries are the repository of books of all flavors, Catholic parents have a resource to turn to which serves as an age-appropriate reading guide for both parents and educators. The Cardinal Newman Society's "[Selected Reading List for Catholic K-12 Schools](https://cardinalnewmansociety.org/selected-reading-list-for-catholic-k-12-schools/)" is based on the authors' "experience as educators and Catholic school administrators, and by consulting sources including schools recognized by the Cardinal Newman Society's Catholic Education Honor Roll for their commitment to strong Catholic identity." While the list is not exhaustive, it provides a sound resource for parents and teachers alike who wish to properly form their children in the Catholic worldview. The Selected Reading List for Catholic K-12 Schools" can be found at <https://cardinalnewmansociety.org/selected-reading-list-for-catholic-k-12-schools/>.

See also <https://cardinalnewmansociety.org/classic-literature-rises-above-agendas-ideology/>

Catholic Charities Family Services can help if you or someone you know is struggling with anxiety, depression, grief, and marital or parenting concerns. We offer transformational outpatient counseling services to individuals, couples, and families of all faiths and backgrounds. Call **703-447-9402**, and for more information, visit <https://www.cdda.net/need-help/medical-and-counseling/counseling/>

FORMED

Get In-Formed!

October is Respect Life month!

Listen to *Aborting America: Story of an Ex-Abortionist & Ex-Atheist* Bernard Nathanson helped found the National Abortion Rights Action League, successfully fought for abortion on demand legislation, and claims responsibility for more than 75,000 abortions prior to his pro-life conversion.

Watch *Changing Sides*, the story of how a pro-life presence changed the heart of a former Planned Parenthood Director, Abby Johnson.

FOR KIDS! Watch *Angel in the Waters*, a sweet story of the development of a child from conception to toddlerhood accompanied by his guardian angel.

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
7644 Dynatech Ct., Springfield, VA 22153

"Saint Mary Magdalene - At the Feet of Jesus," a one-woman drama about repentance and God's mercy, comes to St. Leo the Great Catholic Church on Saturday, October 22. Biblically-based, the story shines a reverent light on this great saint who remained at the foot of the cross and announced the Resurrection. Catholic performing artist Nancy Scimone portrays Mary Magdalene. Recommended for ages 10 through adult. \$10. per person for dinner and play, or \$5. for play only. Dinner is at 6:15 PM; Play begins at 7:30 PM. Tickets are available at the event, or reserved by emailing carolynsmith.stleos@gmail.com. 3700 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, in the school gym. (MaryMagdaleneDrama.com)

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. **We will not meet on Columbus Day, October 10th.**

FAITH DIRECT: eGiving helps you continue to support St. Raymond's. 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 | \$ 22,472.00 |
| Family Assistance | \$ 1305.00 |
| Maintenance Fund | \$ 2,577.00 |
| Our Lady of Ransom Catholic | |
| School Scholarship Donations | \$ 1,249.00 |

The second collection this weekend 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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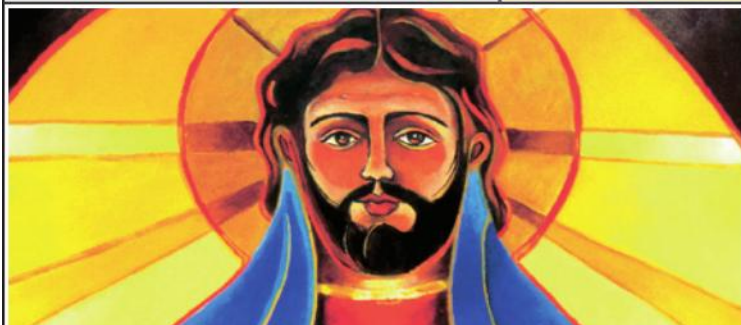
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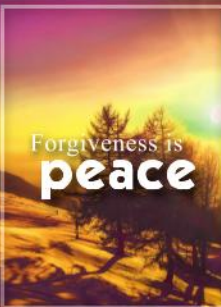
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