



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

All Saints/All Souls. This Tuesday, November 1, is All Saints Day, a **Holy Day of Obligation**. It recalls the important dogma that we are all called to go to heaven, and even now are in communion with all the holy souls who have gone there before us, the Saints. This mystery is so important for us to remember and celebrate that Holy Mother Church requires us all to attend Mass, naming it a mortal sin not to go. Please see the special Mass schedule below.

The next day, Wednesday, November 2, is All Souls Day, which is never a day of obligation, but I encourage you to try to attend Mass that day as well, and keep the whole day as one of prayer for the dead, especially those dear to you—it is a great act of love to pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. We will have an additional 7pm Mass for your convenience.

Of course, all this is preceded Monday, October 31, by Halloween. As you know, I am not a fan of this day, since it not only tends to distract us from and trivialize the meaning of the important days that follow, but it is also used as a feast day by those that serve the devil (including Satanists, witches, etc.). Still, I understand the innocent fun, especially for kids, of dressing up in costumes and going trick-or-treating. And this year the kids have a special need for fun after all the Covid and Shutdown anxiety. So, if it's important to your kids, have some fun, but keep it balanced, and be careful not to let it, in any way, lead you or yours away from Christ, the Saints, or the Holy Souls.

FIRST FRIDAY ALL-NIGHT ADORATION. As mentioned here last week, we will be extending the hours of Eucharistic Adoration and Exposition on First Fridays of every Month. So, **beginning this coming Friday, November 4, we will have Eucharistic Adoration and Exposition continuously from 9am (after Mass) on Friday until 9am (before Mass) on Saturday.** This night-time adoration is often called "Nocturnal Adoration."

We need at least 2 adorers to volunteer to commit to be present for each hour of scheduled adoration, so that Our Eucharistic Lord will not be left alone at any time. Several of the hours are still in need of volunteers, so please visit our website to sign up. But even if you don't sign up, please come to adore at any time.

(Remember: we will also have all-day Eucharistic Adoration and Exposition on Election Day, Tuesday, November 8).

Poll: Transgender Therapy for Minors. Did you hear about the new poll done by *The Trafalgar Group*? As reported by the Family Research Council last week:

There are dozens of actions that Americans under the age of 18 are not allowed to engage in — including voting, joining the military, having sex with someone over 18, applying for credit cards, and adopting a child, to name a few.

And according to a new poll, nearly 80% of Americans believe that using puberty blockers or undergoing procedures to permanently change their sexual characteristics should be among them.

The national survey of likely 2022 election voters was conducted earlier this month by Convention of States Action in partnership with The Trafalgar Group. Survey participants were asked, "Do you believe underage minors should be required to wait until they are adults to use puberty blockers and undergo permanent sex change procedures?"

Of those who responded, 78.7% said they believe underage minors should be required to wait and 21.3% disagreed, saying they don't believe underage minors should be required to wait.

"This polling confirms the obvious — the vast majority of Americans are not on board with the far-Left's sexual agenda, which is seeking to permanently mutilate the young and vulnerable," commented Mark Meckler, president of the Convention of States, in a statement Friday announcing the release of the survey results.

"The idea that young people have to be 16 to drive, 18 to vote, and 21 to drink, and yet can undergo life-altering medical procedures in middle school defies common sense, and the American people see that clearly," he added. "As the Biden administration refuses to do the right thing for our children and take action to protect them from the horrors of the far-Left agenda, it's imperative that individual states ...step up and stand against it."

...Pro-transgenderism advocates claim that "gender affirming" procedures save lives for those with "gender dysphoria" (GD) — the condition in which a person may feel unhappy with their biological sex, express a desire to be the opposite sex, or even insist that they are of the opposite sex. Studies, however, have found that 80% to 95% of pre-pubertal children with gender dysphoria will experience resolution by late adolescence if not exposed to social affirmation and medical intervention.

Duh: What Priests Really Think. I do not like to participate in opinion polling, particularly polling done by Church-related institutions. My reasoning is simple, if oversimplistic: I think most polling is manipulated to come to some pre-conceived conclusion the researchers hope to prove. So when I was asked last year to participate in the survey of priests conducted by researchers at Catholic University America, I declined. But I am amazed at its results: they actually discovered and reported what priests know to be the truth. As *The Pillar* reported last week:

...According to a study published yesterday, American Catholics priests describe their bishops as "imperious," "above the law," and ladder-climbing "chameleons."

The study, published by The Catholic University of America, found that American priests are "flourishing" in their own lives and ministry, but, as one priest interviewed put it, no more likely to seek personal counsel or support from their bishop than from "a stranger in the street."

The breakdown of trust between U.S. priests and their leaders presented in the report suggests a serious fracture in the Church's internal communion in the United States....

In the report ... some priests told researchers that they live in "regular fear" of being "thrown under the bus" by bishops, who - some priests say - see them as "expendable" and "liabilities."

Survey results showed that priests were more likely to describe their spiritual fathers as "CEOs" rather than "shepherds."

But perhaps most alarming for the bishops is the data that shows few of them are aware of their presbyterates are feeling: bishops nearly unanimously told the same survey that they would do "very well" supporting priests in need. Barely a third of priests agreed about that.

...But the apparent crisis of confidence laid bare in the Catholic University report suggests that U.S. priests are actually more skeptical of the bishops as a body than as individuals; while 49% of priests had confidence in their own bishop, only 24% expressed confidence in the bishops' leadership and decision making as a group.

In Happier News. My new personal best golf score: 88, at South Wales last week.

Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles

MASS INTENTIONS**Monday, Oct. 31st**

6:30 am Catherine & Isaac
Nelson
8:30 am Walter Schlender +

Vigil

7:00 pm Berger Family

Tuesday, Nov. 1st**All Saints Day**

6:30 am Son Thi Nguyen
8:30 am Parishioners
Noon Ed Ward +
7:00 pm Lily & Brady Prohaska

Wednesday, Nov. 2nd**All Souls' Day**

6:30 am All Souls in Purgatory+
8:30 am All Souls Triduum+
7:00 pm All Souls in Purgatory+

Thursday, Nov. 3rd

6:30 am Jose Butron Zeballos+
8:30 am All Souls Triduum +

Friday, Nov. 4th

6:30 am James Cade +
8:30 am All Souls Triduum +

Saturday, Nov. 5th

9:00 am Deceased Members
of the Legion of Mary +

Vigil Mass

5:00 pm **Fr. Horkan**
Walter Junior Seiberling +

Sunday, Nov. 6th

7:00 am **Fr. Rippey**
Grant Logue +
9:00 am **Fr. De Celles**
Parishioners
11:00 am **Fr. De Celles**
Robert Ferguson +
1:00 pm **Fr. Horkan**
Eugene & Pauline
Tougas +

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

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 Jim Kirsch Mary Osella Robert Carter Diva Zabalaga
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Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church

Oct. 30	KofC Coats for Kids Drive
Oct. 31	Family of Jesus Prayer Group
Nov. 1	All Saints Day –Holy Day of Obligation Vigil Mass 10/31 at 7pm Masses at 6:30am, 8:30am, noon, and 7pm
Nov. 1	Offices are closed, no Bible Study
Nov. 2	All Souls' Day: Masses at 6:30am, 8:30am & 7pm
Nov. 2	Adoration
Nov. 4	First Friday Nocturnal Adoration
Nov. 5	KofC Blood Drive
Nov. 5	Men's Prayer Group
Nov. 5	Luminaries of Holy Mary
Nov. 6	Donut Sunday
Nov. 8	Adoration for Election Day 9am-7pm
Nov. 9	Special Pro-Life Mass at 7pm for Our Deceased Children

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

ALL SOULS DAY TRIDUUM: St. Raymond's will again be offering a Triduum of Masses for All Souls. The Masses will be said on Nov. 2nd, Nov. 3rd and Nov. 4th at 8:30 am. To have your departed loved ones remembered in these Masses, please complete one of the All Souls envelopes in the narthex and place it in the collection basket today or bring it to the parish office.

Daily Family Rosary will continue! Thank you to everyone who participated in October! Continuing in the months ahead, every evening St. Raymond's will have a 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.

Adoration for Election Day, November 8. Please remember to vote and to pray for God's will in this year's elections. On Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2022 we will have Exposition and Adoration after the 8:30 Mass and conclude with Benediction at 7 pm. Please join us! Visit our website to sign up for an hour or stop by anytime during the day.

Holy Hour Offering Cards. Are you making a Holy Hour for a loved one or a friend? There are now complimentary Holy Hour Offering Cards (with envelopes) available in the Narthex suitable for mailing. Please feel free to take one and let someone know that you are remembering them in prayer.

REMINDER– Time Changes Nov. 6th: Daylight Savings Time ends next weekend! Please remember to set your clocks back one hour Saturday night.

First Friday Nocturnal Adoration Begins November 4. Beginning in November, on the first Friday of the month, we will extend our regular hours of Friday adoration to continue through the evening until Saturday at 9am. Our regularly scheduled adorers will cover the daytime hours (9am – 3pm), and **we will need extra volunteers** to cover from 3pm on Friday through 9am on Saturday. Please visit our website to sign up! Two adorers are required per hour so that Our Lord will not be left alone, but you can come at any time.

Coats for Kids. The Knights of Columbus will be collecting new winter coats for kids after all Masses this weekend. All new coats will be donated to local charities. Monetary donations will also be accepted and will be used to purchase new coats.

Legion of Mary Recruitment and Auxiliary Contact Drive this weekend: The Legion of Mary will be in the narthex October 29-30 to visit with Auxiliaries and to promote the Legion to all parishioners. Please stop by their table for information.

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

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 in good standing, 18 years of age or older. 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. Our Council is growing! We will add 6 Catholic gentlemen to the Knights of Columbus on November 14th. If you see one of us, ask us what the Knights are about.

Nov. 5 Blood Drive. The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a blood drive on behalf of Inova Blood Donor Services on Saturday, November 5th, in the St. Raymond's parish hall from 7:00 am to 12:00 pm. Please consider signing up for a 15-minute timeslot within that period and giving the Gift of Life. You may sign up either online at www.inovabloodsaves.org or in the Narthex after all Masses in the coming weekends. If you have any questions or difficulty signing up, please contact Mark Maslyn of our parish at 703-690-7285 or by email at mam7253@msn.com.

Annual Mass in Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day) The Mass in Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day) will be held on Wednesday, November 2 at 11 a.m. at Fairfax Memorial Park, 9900 Braddock Road, Fairfax. The Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Arlington, will be the principal celebrant and homilist. Included in this beautiful liturgy will be the traditional blessing of the gravesites of deceased priests. (Rain site: Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 8800 Braddock Road, Annandale).

Annual Event: Remembrance Mass for Legion of Mary founder, Servant of God Frank Duff. The Legion of Mary Arlington Regia invites all Legion of Mary active and auxiliary members to commemorate and pray for the beatification of Frank Duff. The event will be held on **Tuesday, November 8, 2022**, at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, 830 23rd Street South, Arlington, VA. It will begin with 6:30pm Holy Rosary, followed by 7:00pm Holy Mass. Light refreshments will be provided following the event.

JPG Fall Open House, Sunday, November 6, 2022. Join us for Saint John Paul the Great Catholic High School's Fall Open House on Sunday, 11/6 from 1-4 pm! Learn what JP has to offer your child - robust academic programs, vibrant student life and House System, competitive athletics, faith community steeped in Dominican tradition, and more! This Open House is a great event for all ages, but especially students in 7th & 8th grade. To learn more and RSVP in advance, please visit: https://jpthegreat.schooladminonline.com/portal/new_inquiry

November Book Club: The parish Book Club will next meet on **Thursday, November 10**, at 10 am in the Library to discuss *Charles de Foucauld* by Jean-Jacques Antier. **NOTE** -- we are meeting on Thursday because of the federal holiday on Friday 11/11 (Veterans Day). A full list of books to be discussed during 2022-2023 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 RESPECTS LIFE



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. If you are able to donate warm outerwear for newborns or 2T, it would be particularly appreciated throughout the winter.

40 Days for Life. Fall 2022 Campaign is underway! 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.

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. amomspc.org

Please see the parish website for info regarding **COVID-19 Vaccines** and their relation to aborted fetal cell lines. **You must speak up!** Sample letter to pharmaceutical companies urging ethical practices available in the narthex and on the parish website.

Women often regret the desperate decision to take the abortion pill. Call the abortion reversal helpline 855-209-4848. **It may not be too late.** abortionpillreversal.com.



Wrapped in Love. Gifts of baby blankets most appreciated! Donations can be left in the MaRiH box in the narthex or brought to the parish office. Thank you!

To those who have suffered an abortion: Project Rachel can help women and men who are carrying the grief and sorrow of a past abortion. (888)456-HOPE. Confidentiality always respected. www.helpafterabortion.org. For Men: (703) 841-3833. Email: info@helpafterabortion.org or info@ayudadespuesdelaborto.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

Sunday 10/30: Youth Group & CCD (Parish Hall)

*1-3pm Jr. High Youth Group

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

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

***Junior High Youth Group** will meet from 1-3pm to do a service project off the premises. Permission slips required.

First Friday, November 4th

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 by Wednesday, 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.



Saturday, November 5th (10:15am-1:15pm)

40 Days for Life Witness & Chick-Fil-A Outing

All 7-12th graders are invited to join us in praying outside the abortion clinic in Falls Church to change hearts and heal the broken hearted. This is our time; this is our battle. Bring your Rosary and bring a friend. You'll be glad you did. You may just save a life. We will carpool & the Youth Apostolate will pay for milkshakes at Chick-Fil-A afterwards. Permissions slips, on YA bulletin boards, are due Thursday 11/3. Counts as 1 service hour.



Pie Sale Fundraiser for Youth Apostolate

Would you, your family, friends, and/or neighbors enjoy a fresh, delicious homemade pie this Thanksgiving? Back by popular demand after last year, our youth apostolate will be making about 70 apple pies & 70 pumpkin pies ready for pick-up Nov. 19-20, just in time for Thanksgiving! All proceeds will support our Youth Apostolate—from our weekly meeting supplies, pizza & snacks to trips like WorkCamp & Steubenville. **Pre-Orders are due November 6th!** Forms for pre-order can be found on youth bulletin boards & in this week's bulletin insert. Thank you, in advance, for supporting our parish youth!

VOLUNTEERS & FOOD NEEDED!

***Adults: We are in need of volunteers** to help coordinate, set up and serve our high school breakfasts on Friday mornings. Please consider this worthy investment in our incredible teens! Email Jeanne for more info.

Breakfast Donations for High School Mass & Breakfast Club

Please consider supporting our parish teens who start their Friday's off with Mass, breakfast, & fellowship by donating a Baked Good, fruit, etc. Sign up at <https://bit.ly/FriBfast>

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!

Youth Apostolate Participation (Grades 7-12)

Info Sheet must be turned in annually for every child *prior* to participating in any Youth Apostolate function. Forms are by the YA bulletin boards or online at <http://bit.ly/YAforms>. Completed forms can be emailed to Jeanne or turned in to the main office.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

PARENTS: THERE WILL BE CCD class

tomorrow, Monday 10/31 even though it is a student holiday in Fairfax County Public Schools.

MASS ATTENDANCE CARDS: Parents of students in **grades 2, 7 and 8** are reminded that your child **should be submitting a Mass attendance card** (blue for grade 2 and red/pink for grades 7 & 8) every time they attend **weekend Mass** (Saturday vigil / Sunday Masses). They should write their first and last name as well as the date and time of the Mass they attend and place it in the collection basket!

If your child attends Mass at a parish other than St. Raymond's, please pick up a bulletin from that parish and ask a priest or deacon to sign the bulletin. Your child should write their name on the bulletin and then drop it off in the RE office when they come to CCD class.

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 Nov. 5.** For more information, call Dave Wilson, 703-966-5327.

Luminaries of Holy Mary: Come join us to honor the Blessed Mother's request for making the 5 First Saturdays: Mass at 9am, then meet in the **Maurer Room** for Rosary, meditation and Gospel reflection. Our **next meeting** is on **November 5**. All are welcome.

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 jpebt@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.

Home School Group: for more information visit our website www.homeschool-life.com/va/straymondhsg/ Or email straymondhsg@gmail.com.

Mothers' Group: Do your young children need a bit more excitement? Are you looking for Catholic friendship with fellow mothers? Come to the moms' meet-up on Wednesday mornings! We alternate between meeting at our church and parks. Email Michelle for more information at mlcastry@gmail.com.

Wreaths Across America: REMEMBER OUR FALLEN U.S. VETERANS. The American Heritage Girls will be selling Wreath Sponsorships after all the Masses Nov. 12-13. On Dec. 17, 2022 a wreath will be placed on the grave of each soldier at the U.S. Soldiers' & Airmen's Home National Cemetery in Washington, D.C. by AHG Troop VA0683. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! For Further information or questions, please contact Eileen Maturi, 703-598-2855 or eileen.maturi@gmail.com

"But you have mercy on all, because you can do all things." Are you called to be a vehicle of God's mercy as a priest, deacon, sister or brother? Call Father Michael Isenberg (703) 841-2514, or write: michael.isenberg@arlingtondiocese.org

Church Persecuted

She was the news director and co-anchor at KNOP-TV, a small-town television station in North Platte (Neb), a truck stop off I-80 between Omaha and Cheyenne (Wyo). Her station has a "long-standing company policy [which] encourages civic involvement among...employees, so long as such activities do not give the appearance of interfering with journalistic impartiality." On a recent Sunday, Melanie Standiford, mother of nine children, distributed a petition in the pews of her church she attends, St. John's Lutheran in Curtis, Neb. The petition called for her home town (pop. ~1000) and five other towns to ban abortions within their city limits. For her "political activity" she was terminated.

Standiford is a well-known Christian and is known for her pro-life lifestyle, and has been known to separate her personal opinions on issues when she is reporting. Yes, she is a rare news reporter who reports and the news without opinion or commentary.

In an interview with Catholic News Agency, she said that she asked her boss why she was fired. He said, "You're being fired for practicing partisan politics." She replied, "I don't think I was being political with that in my home church, sitting in the pews in my church."

Using that criteria, would a parishioner here be fired from a secular job for attending a holy hour for the unborn? What about putting up the pro-life and religious freedom voting signs in your yard? Being pro-life is intrinsic to being a person...it's apolitical.

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/252532/christian-newscaster-fired-for-circulating-pro-life-petition-speaks-out>

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!

November 1 is All Saints Day!

Listen to *Saints for Sinners: The Lives of St. Augustine and St. Margaret*. This excerpt from Archbishop Alban Goodier's book of the same title reminds us how God's mercy can transform our lives through our surrender to Him.

Read *Married Saints and Blesseds Through the Centuries* via ePub or your Kindle. This book by Fr. Ferdinand Holbock provides examples of sanctity in marriage by over 200 holy men and women.

FOR KIDS! Watch *Cat Chat: Building The Kingdom-Learning About the Saints*. Learn about the lives of some of our heavenly friends and how to call upon them to pray for us.

Available for FREE at www.straymonds.formed.org

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

Come see Catholic liberal arts education in the classical tradition! Join our open house session on Friday evening, 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

Scholarships to Catholic Schools are still available!

Please send requests for tuition assistance to Fr. De Celles or contact the parish office for more information.

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 other Holy Days. Contact Elisabeth Turco at music@straymonds.org or call 703-506-4644.

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, 1 qt. oil vs. 1 gal oil).

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	\$ 13,174.00
Family Assistance	\$ 295.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 840.00
Our Lady of Ransom Catholic School Scholarship Donations	\$ 1,240.00
World Mission Sunday	\$2,388.00

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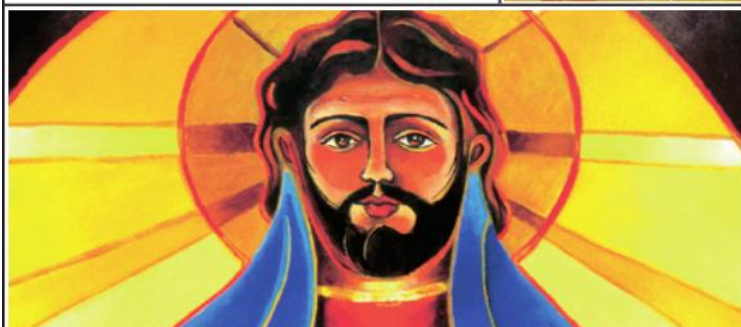
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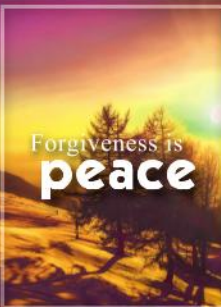
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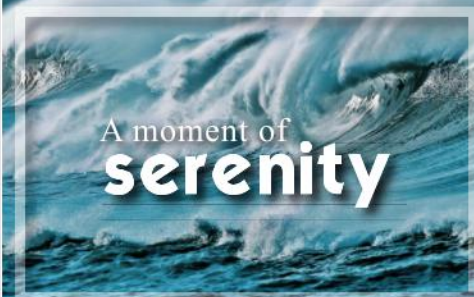
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