



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

New Business Manager. I'm delighted to announce that Maerose Naduvilekunnel will be joining our office staff as our new Business Manager. Maerose has years of experience in bookkeeping and office work, including 12 years as Fiscal Manager/Bookkeeper at St. Agnes in Arlington. She is a parishioner of Our Lady of Angels, but has attended Mass at St. Raymond's many times over the last few years. Like many of our parishioners, she's been in the U.S. for decades, but grew up in the Philippines, where she went to college and graduate school. She holds an MA in Education from St. Paul University, Tuguegarao City. I think Maerose will be an excellent fit with our office staff and be a great addition to our parish. I hope you will welcome her and keep her in your prayers going forward.

I also want to thank all the other excellent candidates who showed interest in this position. God was very generous in giving me a large and interesting group to interview and prayerfully consider. God bless you.

Altar Rail Catechesis. This last week, the Bishop issued a new policy for parishes interested in installing altar rails in their churches (there are apparently many pastors asking to do so). Although the policy doesn't apply to us—since we have ours already—it reminds me that I should offer a brief catechesis on the altar rail.

As the new policy reminds us, the General Instruction for the Roman Missal (the norms governing the Mass) tells us:

"The norm established for the Dioceses of the United States of America is that Holy Communion is to be received standing, unless an individual member of the faithful wishes to receive Communion while kneeling."

Some mistakenly interpret this to mean that the norm is to stand, and not to kneel. But that is an erroneous reading of the text, which clear provides, *"The norm...is to ...[receive] standing, unless an individual member of the faithful wishes to receive Communion while kneeling."* In other words, the norm includes kneeling, if that is the wish of the individual.

While it is correct that you can't force people to kneel (and we don't do that here), a priest can still encourage them to exercise their RIGHT to kneel if they "wish to." Moreover, the norm doesn't mean a pastor can't explain why he thinks it might be a good thing to "wish to." As the Congregation for Divine Worship stated in its 2002 ruling defending the individual's right to kneel at Communion, citing then Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (later Pope Benedict XVI): "the practice of kneeling for Holy Communion has in its favor a centuries-old tradition, and it is a particularly expressive sign of adoration, completely appropriate in light of the true, real and substantial presence of Our Lord Jesus Christ under the consecrated species."

So, the norm is that you may either stand or kneel, according to your own inclinations. As your pastor I defend your right to choose. Even so, I encourage you to kneel, as Cardinal Ratzinger did. And as Cardinal Robert Sarah did, when he served as Prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship, writing in 2017: *"I simply ask you to recall that at the end of his life of service, a man in a body wracked with sickness, John Paul II could never sit in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. He forced his broken body to kneel. He needed the help of others to bend his knees, and again to stand...right up until his very last days."*

When I installed our altar rails a few years back, my reasons were pretty straightforward. First it was to accommodate the popular desire that many people have to exercise their right to kneel to receive Holy Communion. Now, it's true that you don't need a kneeler to kneel, but without a kneeler it is much more difficult, clumsy, time-consuming and conspicuous than it should be, and therefore discourages most people who would like to kneel. This is really unfair. But when there's a kneeler/rail it is much easier for people to kneel down and get up again.

(Note: some argue that distributing Communion at the rail makes people who want to stand feel forced to kneel. That may be true, but so is the opposite: "Communion lines" (i.e., without a rail) make people who want to kneel feel forced to stand. I speak from long personal firsthand experience: kneeling in a Communion line often makes the communicant the object of ridicule and derision, even by some priests.)

Moreover, with up to 6 people at a time, either standing or kneeling, at the long rail, there is no need to rush to get out of the next person's way: you may take a moment to pray.

Also, with everyone at the rail, if two people kneel and two people stand, no one stands out. So by adding the Communion Rail, everyone can comfortably receive the way they want, kneeling or standing.

And finally, there are great spiritual reasons for kneeling to receive Our Lord, so I do wish to encourage you to consider it and not feel uncomfortable doing so. As St. Augustine, taught: "No one eats that flesh without first adoring it; we should sin were we not to adore it."

NOVEMBER: PRAYING FOR THE DEAD. Last Wednesday we celebrated *All Souls Day*. But as we go forward in November, we remember this whole month is set aside by the Church as a month to pray for the dead who are in Purgatory being prepared for their entrance into Heaven. So I encourage you to pray and offer Masses for our beloved dead this month, and for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, especially the "most abandoned," the souls who no one else remembers to pray for.

"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls, and all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace."

Vote Like a Catholic. This Tuesday, November 8, Virginians go to the polls to elect our U.S. Representatives. Sadly, many voters, including many Catholics, will vote for candidates who embrace abortion, "same-sex marriage," the transgender agenda, and the undermining of religious liberty. Many others will not vote at all. But as the Church teaches, not only must Catholics vote, they must vote like Catholics, placing priority on the most "fundamental values, such as respect for human life, its defense from conception to natural death, the family built upon marriage between a man and a woman, the freedom to educate one's children and the promotion of the common good in all its forms (230). These values are not negotiable" (Pope Benedict XVI, *Sacramentum Caritatis*, 83).

Prayer and Adoration for the Election. I encourage all of you to pray for God's will to prevail in the election, and remind you we will have Adoration and Exposition in the church all day on Election Day (this Tuesday), beginning immediately after the 8:30am Mass and ending at 7pm. I also ask you all to pray the Rosary today, tomorrow and Tuesday.

Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles

MASS INTENTIONS**Monday, Nov. 7th**

6:30 am Toby Stauch +
8:30 am Vernon Richard Butler

Tuesday, Nov. 8th

6:30 am Mary Smith +
8:30 am Oran Berkley
Stephens Jr. +

Wednesday, Nov. 9th

6:30 am Maria Valencia de
Butron +
8:30 am Mary Butler
7:00 pm For Our Deceased
Children+

Thursday, Nov. 10th

6:30 am Barnett Klehman+
8:30 am Emma Berger

Friday, Nov. 11th**Veterans Day**

10:00 am Michael Berger

Saturday, Nov. 12th

9:00 am Erika Sullivan +

Vigil Mass

5:00 pm Fr. De Celles
Molita Burrows +

Sunday, Nov. 13th

7:00 am Fr. Rippy
Sandy Brown +
9:00 am Fr. De Celles
Parishioners
11:00 am Fr. De Celles
Freddie L. Kemp +
1:00 pm Fr. Horkan
RE Students & their
Families

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 Barbara Carlson
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Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church

Nov. 6	Donut Sunday
Nov. 6	YA Pie Sale orders due
Nov. 7	Family of Jesus Prayer Group
Nov. 8	Adoration for Election Day 9am - 7pm
Nov. 9	Adoration 9am - 7pm
Nov. 9	Legion of Mary
Nov. 9	Special Pro-Life Mass at 7pm for Our Deceased Children
Nov. 10	Book Club 10am
Nov. 11	Veterans Day Holiday –One Mass at 10am Parish Offices are Closed
Nov. 11	Adoration 9am - 3pm
Nov. 19	Men's Prayer Group

Donut Sunday, this Sunday, November 6th 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. We will also have LOST & FOUND items out for you to check. November's Donut Sunday will be hosted by our Trail Life Troop.

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.

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.

Golden Jubilee Holy Hour and Rosary with Bishop Burbidge. All are invited to join Bishop Michael F. Burbidge for a Solemn Eucharistic Holy Hour with the Recitation of the Holy Rosary to inaugurate Preparation Year II of our diocesan Golden Jubilee. The theme for Year II is "Rejoice: My soul rejoices in the Lord!" The Holy Hour will take place on **Sunday, November 20, at 4 pm** at the Cathedral of Saint Thomas More in Arlington. Please join us!

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

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.

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. **Please visit our website to sign up!**

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.

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.



St. John Bosco Council #12846 Knights of Columbus Are you a man of 17½ years or more? Are you a practicing Catholic? Then we invite you to join the Knights! Contact Deputy Grand Knight Larry Saenz 703-832-1042 or go to www.KofC.org/JoinUs to become a Knight today! Our common bond is our devotion to the Catholic Faith and our brotherhood in Christ. We have joined together to help one another become better Catholics, better husbands, better fathers and better providers for the financial protection of our families.

Into the Breach Program. All Knights and all men of St. Raymond's Parish who are 18 or over are invited to attend the *Into the Breach* Program, inspired by the Apostolic Exhortation written by Bishop Olmsted of Phoenix. The Knights of Columbus produced a 12-part video series which seeks to answer the question of what it means to be a man in today's world. The goal of *Into the Breach* is to help men grow in their faith and become the men that God is calling them to be. Pre-registration is required and registration each month is limited to 20 attendees. **The next session, on Leadership and Fatherhood, will be on November 12 from 10-1 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.

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. "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 questions, contact Judy Mayer, jmayer9014@aol.com, or call / text 703-627-7320.

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

Inclement Weather Policy

In the event of Weather or Emergency closings, St. Raymond's Parish NO LONGER follows Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) decisions.

In the event of Weather or other Emergency situations, notice of cancellations or closings of parish events and/or facilities will be posted to the parish website. If possible/practical the parish will also send out an email to all parishioners notifying them of the closing/cancellations.

There are only TWO exceptions to any closing decisions we make and issue:

- 1) Regularly scheduled Masses and Confession will NEVER be cancelled due to inclement Weather.**
- 2) Meetings of very small groups that receive the pastor's personal permission, in which case members will be notified of the exception personally by their group leader.

SAINT RAYMOND'S RESPECTS LIFE



*If he is not alive,
why is he growing?
If he is not a human being,
what kind of being is he?
If he is not a child
why is he sucking his thumb?
If he is a living, human child,
why is it legal to kill him?*
(18 week old unborn baby.)

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. This is our commitment weekend! Please join us in the sidewalk in front of 900 S Washington Street, Falls Church to peacefully and prayerfully witness for life. Sign Up sheets are in the narthex – or just stop by when you can! **Pray to end abortion in our country.** Come and see! Do you need a ride or a friend to witness with? Contact Liz Hildebrand at hildebrandseven@gmail.com.

Special Mass, 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

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.

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



Pie Sale Fundraiser for Youth Apostolate Orders DUE TODAY!

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!** Youth are in the Narthex after Masses this weekend to collect any last minute orders. Thank you in advance for supporting our parish youth!

Sunday 11/6: Youth Group & CCD (Parish Hall)

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

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

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

Friday, November 18th (Note: No 6:30am Mass 11/11)

6:30am Friday Morning Mass & Breakfast Club

New: All 7-12th graders 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.

We will not be meeting for Mass & Breakfast on 11/25.

Talitha Koun: High School Girls' Group

7-8:30pm Tuesday, November 8th (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 Koun meets the 2nd & 4th TUESDAY of each month in the Maurer Room from 7-8:30pm.** All high school ladies are welcome!!

VOLUNTEERS & FOOD NEEDED!

Volunteers Needed to Help with High School Youth Group

Most Sundays 6:45-9pm Our Youth Apostolate is in need of more volunteers/role models (*particularly women*) to help with our weekly high school youth group. Is the Holy Spirit nudging you? Contact Jeanne for more information.

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

PLEASE NOTE:

November 21, 22 and 27: Thanksgiving Holiday - there WILL BE NO CCD classes!

MASS ATTENDANCE CARDS: Parents of students in grades 2, 7 and 8 (homeschool and CCD) 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.

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 **December 3**. 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 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.

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

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

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).

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

This is National Vocation Awareness Week. Please ask Our Lord for more dedicated, holy priests, deacons, and consecrated men and women. May they be inspired by Jesus Christ, supported by our faith community, and respond generously to God's gift of vocation. If you feel God is calling you, contact Fr. Michael Isenberg, Vocations Director, at michael.isenberg@arlingtondiocese.org or call (703) 841-2514.

Church Persecuted

So much of society is egotistic and focused on self. In his book, *Healing the Culture*, Father Robert Spitzer, S.J. writes about happiness as “one of the most significant subjects that we can ever think about — both individually and as a community.” The way one thinks about happiness is related to what is important in life. Our culture sees happiness as personal achievement, being on top, winning, a happy marriage, etc. But, as Father Paul Scalia said during the recent Men’s Conference, held at the parish success is “being true to Christ... [investing] ourselves into the Sacrifice of Christ.” Thus the conflict. With society, happiness is personal; with Christians, it is “being present with Christ,” seeing Christ as someone real and present for us.

Spitzer defines happiness at four levels. Level 1 is physical pleasure and material possessions. “I am happy when I am having a great meal with family and friends.” Level 1, as a goal, leads to addiction to things and loses focus on what is truly important in life and should always be subordinate to higher levels.

Level 2 is ego-gratification. “I am happy because I am successful. When Level 2 happiness becomes an end in itself, we often advance ourselves at the expense of others and lose focus on what is truly important in life.” Level 2 happiness as an end, leads to aggression and arrogance; losing focus on what is really important in life. Unfortunately, much of society today is at either Level 1 or 2 happiness.

Continued next week with Level 3 and Level 4 happiness.

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 2 was All Souls’ Day. We especially remember and pray for the dead this month.

Listen to “Purgatory.” In this episode of the “Answering Common Objections” series, Dr. Scott Hahn provides biblical evidence for the doctrine of Purgatory.

Watch *The Last Things*. This short film reminds us to be mindful of our eternal destination. It also explains the Catholic teaching of Purgatory.

For TEENS and adults! *Watch Symbolon: The Last Things. What Happens Before We Die?* Part of the Symbolon series designed to explain the Faith, this episode addresses death, final judgement, Heaven and Hell.

Available for FREE 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

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.

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.

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.

FAITH DIRECT SEPTEMBER COLLECTION

Offertory	\$ 53,544.50
Family Assistance	\$ 2,054.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 5,539.00
Our Lady Of Ransom Catholic	
School Scholarships	\$ 1,575.00
World Mission Sunday	\$ 1,086.00

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION

Sunday Offertory	\$ 14,894.00
Family Assistance	\$ 886.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 911.00
Our Lady of Ransom Catholic	
School Scholarship Donations	\$ 56.00

The second collection this weekend is for the Archdiocese for Military Services. Please be generous.

The second collection next weekend is for Retired Religious.



SENIOR AND MILITARY DISCOUNTS!

FINANCING AVAILABLE

ROOFING

DECKS • SIDING
GUTTERS

FREE wind & Hail Damage
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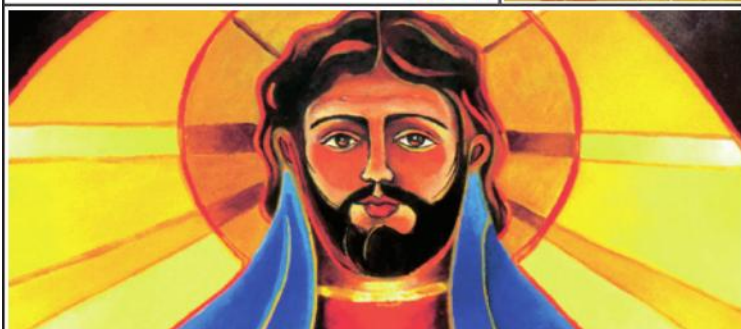
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