



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
Maerose Naduvilekunnel, Business Manager
Virginia Osella, Parish Secretary
Mary Butler, 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

Fr. Daly. Hundreds of folks came to pray and show respect for Fr. Jerry Daly during his 5 hour wake in the church last Friday, and we had a full church for the funeral the next day. It was great to see the 40 plus priests and almost as many altar boys, not to mention two bishops at the funeral. Msgr. John Cregan gave an excellent homily, using Fr. Daly's saintly life as a teaching instrument for us all. If you weren't there, you can see the video of the Mass on our website (on the drop down menu click "WATCH LIVESTREAM MASS," and on the "VIEW MASS ONLINE" page scroll down to "Reverend Jerome Daly Funeral Mass at 11 am"). The homily is at 23:40 minutes.

Thanks to all who made Fr. Jerry Daly's funeral and wake so memorable. Special thanks to the altar boys who served and formed the guard of honor, and to our choir which sang so beautifully.

On that note, a particular thank you to our Music Director, Elisabeth Turco. She has had a great affection and attachment to Fr. Daly for over 25 or so years, ever since he hired her as Music Director at his parish at the time, St. John's in McLean. Unfortunately, she was out of the country visiting her elderly mother in Hungary when Father died and was devastated at not being able to return in time for the funeral. Even so, she planned and coordinated all the funeral music from her mother's home in Budapest, working with me, Fr. Scalia and Fr. Weston at the chancery, the Daly family and our musicians and singers to make sure everything went so beautifully at the funeral. She is so wonderful.

Also, particular thanks to Virginia Osella, our Parish Secretary who worked so hard to coordinate everything, and then filled in masterfully for Elisabeth in directing the choir at the funeral.

Also thanks to the Fairfax County Police Department for their motorcycle escort to the cemetery. Normally they don't do this, and never on a Saturday, but through the encouragement of my friend, Fr. Gripshover, (pastor of St. Lawrence and Chaplain to the FCPD) they came to understand what a special man Fr. Daly was and gladly made an exceptions.

Also thanks to the United States Army and the soldiers they sent to honor Fr. Daly at the gravesite, especially with a booming 21-gun salute. Wow. Again, they don't normally do this for a burial not at a national cemetery, and never on a Saturday. But again, thanks to the efforts of one of our parishioners (who I think would rather go unnamed) we were able to appeal to the highest levels of the Army, literally, to help them understand exactly who Fr. Daly was. Once this was done, all involved told me it was obvious the Army had to be there in full force—and the soldiers told me what an honor it was for them to be there.

I am sad to lose Fr. Daly, but I was so glad we could honor him so well. But the greatest way to honor him is to pray for his soul, that he may swiftly be freed from all imperfections and receive the glorious reward that awaits him in heaven. Remember the simple prayer every Catholic should know:

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord; And may perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Parish Finances. I have been negligent in fully reporting last year's financial results to you. I apologize, but with the change in business managers in September/October it was postponed and then, frankly, overlooked. I deeply apologize for this delay.

Please find the Finance Report of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022 (FYE-6/22), inserted in this bulletin. This year we've included a 4-year comparison, to show the changes from

pre-Covid (FYE-6/19) to now.

The Report deserves your careful review, and it also deserves some explanation on my part, as follows below. I hope my effort to give you a better understanding of last year's financial results isn't too confusing—I'll do my best and apologize up front for my failures.

Operating Income (mainly from offertory, long-term maintenance collections and other donations) was \$2,226,119. But this is a **little deceiving (unintentionally)** when we compare it to the prior years, since it includes \$243,686 in scholarship donations which, when I solicited these, I asked donors to treat as completely separate from regular parish donations, i.e., completely dedicated to scholarships.

When we back this number out, "Operating Income before scholarship donations" was \$1,982,433, up \$274,055 (or 16%) from the comparable figure for FYE-6/21, but still down \$275,462 (12%) from FYE-6/19.

The increase in Operating Income (without scholarships) is mostly due to the sharp increase in our Long-term Maintenance Donations, which were up \$154,267 from FYE-6/21, but still down by 92,835 (or 36%) from FYE-6/19.

The offertory collection was up \$99,191 (or 7.4%) from FYE-6/21, but still down by \$276,793 (or 16%) from FYE-6/19.

Operating Expenses were \$2,037,492, but "Operating Expenses before scholarship payments" were \$1,880,457 up \$253,145 (or 15.5%) from the comparable figure for FYE-6/21, and up \$83,373 (4.6%) from FYE-6/19.

The increase in Operating Expenses (without scholarships) is primarily due to 1) an increase in parish activities back to normal levels, i.e., pre-Covid operations, and 2) **inflation of about 16% since 2019.**

Extraordinary Income was all over the place in the four years. The Capital improvement expenditures this year relate to the Altar Rail and Pulpit installation. This year we also received a \$158,200 benefit when our "PPP Loan" (received in FYE-6/20) from the Small Business Administration (to support payroll during Covid) was officially forgiven (under the Covid relief provisions passed by Congress).

All this left us with a **Net Surplus (the bottom line) of \$296,861.** However, this might give us a slightly distorted understanding of our fiscal situation if we don't consider that without these two extraordinary income/expense items, the net surplus would only be \$188,627. Moreover, without the income and expense related to scholarships, **the net surplus would only be \$21,583.**

On the Balance Sheet side, things look great. We had Cash on hand (in operating account) of \$223,897 in checking and **\$1,987,280 in savings.**

I apologize for the confusing presentation regarding scholarships. I'll try to get a more user friendly presentation approved for next year.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions about the report.

Virginia March for Life. We're taking a bus down to Richmond this Wednesday, February 1. See details below under "SAINT RAYMOND'S RESPECTS LIFE." I hope to see you in Richmond!

Throat Blessing. This Friday is the Feast of St. Blaise, the day we traditionally bless throats. The blessing will be given at the end of the two morning Masses, as well as in the evening without a Mass at 5pm and 6:30pm—sharp! See you then.

Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles

MASS INTENTIONS**Monday, Jan. 30th**

6:30 am Paul & Marie
Sundberg +
8:30 am Arian Akhand

Tuesday, Jan. 31st

6:30 am Don & Louise
Sundberg +
8:30 am Liette Family

Wednesday, Feb. 1st

6:30 am Margaret Conboy +
8:30 am Vladamir Manasek +

Thursday, Feb. 2nd

6:30 am William Ehorn +
8:30 am Kevin Conboy +

Friday, Feb. 3rd

6:30 am Chris Conboy +
8:30 am Susan Sundberg +

Saturday, Feb. 4th

9:00 am Rosemary Baclig +

Vigil Masses

5:00 pm
Gertrude Seiberling +

Sunday, Feb. 5th

7:00 am
RE Students & their
Families

9:00 am
Parishioners

11:00 am
Matt & Ann Marie
Riordan

1:00 pm
Family of Jesus Prayer
Group

**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

Daily Family Rosary leaders needed! St. Raymond's has a Daily Family Rosary in the church: Mon-Fri at 6:30pm; **Saturday and Sunday after the 9am Mass.** 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!**

First Friday Nocturnal Adoration, Feb. 3. On the first Friday of the month, we 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.

All Saints Church (Manassas, VA) has invited our parishioners to participate in their Multi Car Raffle. Prizes include four 2023 vehicles from Ourisman Ford of Manassas (Ford Escape, Mustang, Ranger Truck and Bronco Sport). One \$5.00 ticket offers the purchaser a chance to win all four vehicles plus \$40,000 (including one for \$20,000) in cash prizes. By now, you should have received tickets in the mail. Please consider selling/purchasing the tickets mailed to you. We pray we have a few St. Raymond winners this year. Proceeds from the raffle fund many of St. Raymond's charitable efforts.

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT! 5:30-8:30pm next Saturday, 2/4 Parents, looking for a night out? Our high school youth (and compliant adults) are here for you! Bring the kids for pizza, entertainment, coloring and games, all for just \$15/kid. **Register NOW to secure your spot.** <https://bit.ly/FEB4NIGHTOUT> Open through 1/31 (Wed.) or until all spots are filled.

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!

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.

Ryan Higgins

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 Gaudencio Dizon Paul Haynes Dwayne Taylor Ted Tolpa Nena Brennan	Serrin Foster Margaret O'Neill Christina Cautero Unborn Baby Mutumanje Fatima Mutumanje Megan Bradley Leonora Ramos
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Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church

Jan. 30	Family of Jesus Prayer Group
Jan. 31	Bible Study
Feb. 1	Adoration 9am - 7pm
Feb. 1	Legion of Mary
Feb. 2	Bridge Club
Feb. 3	St. Blaise Throat Blessing After Masses and at 5pm and 6:30pm
Feb. 3	First Friday Nocturnal Adoration
Feb. 4	Luminaries of Holy Mary
Feb. 4	Men's Prayer Group
Feb. 4	Parents Night Out (YA Fundraiser)
Feb. 18	Women's Retreat
Feb. 22	Ash Wednesday

Women's Retreat on February 18, 2023: The Women's Apostolate to Youth (WAY) will once again host a retreat for the women of the parish on the Saturday before Lent begins. This year's retreat is entitled, "**Laborare Mecum: Christ's Call to Restore Lost Innocence,**" and will feature talks and prayers about reparation for sins against children and youth in our current culture, particularly through Eucharistic Adoration. Please mark your calendars and stay tuned for more details.

February Book Club: The parish Book Club will next meet on **Friday, February 10, 2023**, at 10:00 AM in the St Raymond Library to discuss "**Priest and Beggar, the Heroic Life of Venerable Aloysius Schwartz**" by Kevin Wells. 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.

AHG Valentine's Day Fundraiser. The American Heritage Girls (AHG) Troop VA 0638 will be selling Chocolate & Roses for Valentine's Day after all Masses February 11 and 12. Please stop in the narthex at St. Raymond's after Mass and purchase some delicious chocolate and beautiful roses.

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 February 4.** All are welcome.



St. John Bosco Council #12846 Knights of Columbus Are you a man of 17½ years or more and a practicing Catholic? Then we invite you to join the Knights! Contact Deputy Grand Knight Mark Menotti at 401-644-7128 or go to <http://www.KofC.org/JoinUs> (or scan this QR code) to become a Knight today!



Into the Breach, Feb. 11. All Knights and men of St. Raymond's Parish who are 18 years of age or older are invited to attend the next session of the Into the Breach Program sponsored by the Knights of Columbus on **Saturday, February 11, 10 am - noon in the Maurer Room for a session on Prayer.** 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 is limited to 20 attendees. For more information and to register, please contact Pat Franco at (703) 220-2403 or at popsfr8@aol.com.

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. **Our next meeting will be February 4.** For more information, call Dave Wilson, 703-966-5327.

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.

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.

Virtus Seminar at St. Raymond's: There is a Virtus Seminar scheduled at St. Raymond in the parish hall on Thursday, February 2 from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Attending a Virtus Seminar is required (in addition to a background check) for anyone who has substantial contact with youth as part of their volunteer activities at St. Raymond. Attending a Virtus Seminar is required only once in a lifetime. You can register for the Virtus Seminar at virtusonline.org. Any questions, contact Mary Hansen at 703-440-0537.

2023 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA) Begins! The 2023 BLA mailing was recently sent to parishioners. The theme is "My soul rejoices in the Lord," which is shared with the second preparatory year of the Diocesan Jubilee. The BLA funds programs and ministries that serve thousands of people in our diocese. Through the inspiration of the BLA theme, let us joyfully make a pledge to support God's Kingdom in our diocese! You may make a gift at: www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA

SAINT RAYMOND'S RESPECTS LIFE
Learn the TRUTH. Live the TRUTH. Spread the TRUTH... in LOVE

"The care of human life and not its destruction is the first and only legitimate object of good government."
President Thomas Jefferson



In Post Roe America, the people of each state must stand up for life.
Join us for **The Virginia March for Life and Defending Life Day** in Richmond

on **Wed. February 1st**. We will be sending one bus leaving after the 8:30 Mass and returning by 4:30. Seats are free but registration is required. Sign Up sheets are in the narthex. For more information visit: marchforlife.org/virginia-march-for-life/

Watch this message from Bishop Burbidge. <https://youtu.be/mTXasGcwZHs>

MaRiH Pregnancy Care Center: We proudly partner with MaRiH as they serve local expectant mothers in need. Knowing each child has an unrevealed holy purpose, MaRiH volunteers strive to see the face of God in the mothers and families they help. **Thank you, dear friends at Saint Raymond's, for so generously supporting us in this work of mercy.** For ways to become involved, please visit: marih.org. **Donations of warm outerwear for newborns or 2T are particularly appreciated at this time.**

Angel Wall: Have you suffered the loss of a child or grandchild? If you would like to honor the memory of your deceased child, please contact the Parish Office to have your child's name added to the Angel Wall in the narthex.

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

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

Has the sorrow of miscarriage or still birth touched your life? **A Mom's Peace**, offers discreet support to families with bereavement, burial and remembrance assistance. Visit amomspeace.org.

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. Men: (703) 841-3833.

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

*All are welcome to participate in Youth Apostolate events.
Make sure forms are signed and on file. <http://bit.ly/YAforms>

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT!

5:30-8:30 pm next Saturday, 2/4



Parents, looking for a night out? Our high school youth (and compliant adults) are here for you! Bring the kids for pizza, entertainment, coloring and games, all for just \$15/kid. **Register NOW to secure your spot.** <https://bit.ly/FEB4NIGHTOUT>
Open through 1/31 (Wed.) or until all spots are filled.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED (HS Teens & Adults)

5-9pm Saturday, February 4th

We will need a LOT of high school teens and compliant adult volunteers (ideally those without young children) in order to make our Parents' Night Out babysitting fundraiser a success. Teens will do most of the work, compliant adults are needed for oversight and to ensure we have the proper child protection ratio. Sign up at <https://bit.ly/helpbabysit>

Sunday 1/29: 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)

Talitha Koum: High School Girls' Group

5:30-7pm, MONDAY 1/30 (Maurer Room)

NEW MEETING DAY/TIME! All 9-12th grade girls are invited to cultivate authentic community and friendships, as we chat, pray and have fun together! Going forward we will meet from 5:30-7pm in the Maurer Room every 1st & 3rd Monday. Newcomers always welcome!

Fri. Morning Mass & Breakfast Club, February 3rd 6:30am

All 7-12th grade youth are invited to join us Friday mornings for 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!

DIRE NEED! 2 male and 1 female (age 25+) to be WorkCamp Crew Leaders/chaperones

in order for our teens to be able to attend WorkCamp this summer. **Commitment to remain present and sleep at the school the full week of June 17-23rd is required. If we do not have these volunteers, 7 of our teens will not be able to attend.** PLEASE pray about this opportunity. Absolutely no experience is required. Your role will be to experience WorkCamp alongside our youth while leading by example and ensuring that teens are following directions. Email Jeanne for more info. **We still have room for up to 4 more boys and 4 more girls to join us (IF we get enough crew leaders!)**

Jeanne Sause

Director of the Youth Apostolate (Grades 7-12)

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

Get on our weekly email list for the most updated info on Youth Apostolate news & upcoming events!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Parents of Second Grade students: First Penance is scheduled for Saturday, February 11th at 10 a.m.

Please consider bringing the entire family to the 9:00 a.m. Mass to prepare for this wonderful sacrament of healing. All second grade students and Monday and Tuesday RCIC students-whether they attend Mass or not - are to gather in the Narthex no later than 9:45 a.m. and should check in with their teacher. Home school students and those from Catholic schools other than Angelus Academy should check in with Mrs. Hansen or Mrs. Salmon. At least one parent should remain at the church; your child may leave after reception of the Sacrament and completion of their penance.

Looking ahead: There will be NO CCD classes February 19, 20 and 21 in observance of the Presidents' Day holiday.

Quo Vadis Father-Son Seminary Visit. Ever wondered what college seminary is like? Join Fr. Isenberg and Quo Vadis on Saturday, February 11, 2023, to experience it firsthand on a visit to St. John Paul II Seminary in Washington, D.C. Meet the seminarians and their formators, see where they live, pray, eat and study, celebrate Mass together and tour parts of Catholic University where they have classes. Dads are welcome but not required. Deadline to submit registration form is February 3. Visit ArlingtonDiocese.org/QuoVadis, or contact the Office of Vocations, vocations@arlingtondiocese.org or 703-841-2514. Quo Vadis events are for high school boys interested in growing in their spiritual life and exploring their vocations.

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.

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.

St. Raymond's 2022-23 Snow Team: Your Parish needs your HELP! St. Raymond's is seeking industrious, able-bodied people to join the 2022-23 Snow Removal Team. For more information or to apply, please contact the Parish Office, at 703-440-0535 during office hours.

Church Persecuted

Cardinal George Pell from Australia, perhaps the most influential English-speaking cardinal in the Catholic Church, died unexpectedly on January 10, 2023. He was 81. He had the unique distinction of serving in high-ranking positions under three popes. He was very forthright in his writing and speaking and lived out an “uncompromising combination of Catholic orthodoxy, moral truth, pro-life witness and solidarity with the poor. He took “Be not afraid,” Pope John Paul II’s signature biblical phrase, as his own motto.”

His frankness causes discomfort among “the flaccid Catholic establishment in Australia” as the archbishop of Sydney and then Melbourne. Called to the Vatican to clean up the Vatican finances, his forthrightness brought concern to entrenched Vatican bureaucrats, and he was removed from office. He returned to Australia to defend himself against trumped up charges of sexually abusing minors. So corrupt was the Victoria state police which was called to investigate the charges, that in court it would concede that their operation was called “Get Pell.” It was clearly a case of deciding on the defendant, and “then set out to find a crime.”

He was convicted, served more than a year in solitary confinement including being denied the opportunity to celebrate Mass. He was unanimously acquitted by the Australian Supreme Court and freed — completely vindicated!

“Pell emerged from prison demonstrating that the Catholic orthodoxy he always preached included mercy, forgiveness, and compassion. He spoke no ill words about his persecutors and published three volumes of his prison diaries, which revealed the inner Christian disciple that the public caricatures concealed.”

(Wall Street Journal, 1/13/23, by Father Raymond J. de Souza)

FORMED

Get In-Formed!

The Presentation of the Lord is celebrated on February 2.

Parents: Watch *Praying the Rosary with Your Kids (Without Losing Your Mind)*. This brief (10 min) video gives parents encouragement and ideas on how to engage kids in praying the rosary.

Watch: *A Bible Study on the Joyful Mysteries: The Presentation*. In this FORMED Now episode, professors at the Augustine Institute discuss and give insight into the fourth Joyful Mystery.

Listen to *The Virgin Mary Revealed Through Scripture*. Dr. Scott Hahn uses the Bible to support the Church’s teachings on Mary as the new Eve and the Queen of Heaven.

Available for FREE! To set up an account, visit **Formed.org/signup** and select our parish.

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

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.



Angelus Academy

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

We are now accepting applications for 2023-24.

Visit angelusacademy.org/admissions-overview/applying/

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

www.AngelusAcademy.org

703-924-3996

7644 Dynatech Ct., Springfield, VA 22153

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).

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. Sign up today by visiting faith.direct/VA64. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family. God bless you.

FAITH DIRECT JAN. 2023

Offertory	\$ 57,335.56
Family Assistance	\$ 2,329.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 5,084.00
Our Lady of Ransom Catholic	
School Scholarship Donations	\$ 2,795.00

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION

Sunday Offertory	\$ 12,317.00
Family Assistance	\$ 391.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 386.00
Our Lady of Ransom Catholic	
School Scholarship Donations	\$ 5,520.00
Church in Latin America	\$ 2,051.00

Our Second Collection next weekend is for the Diocesan Newspaper, *The Arlington Catholic Herald*.

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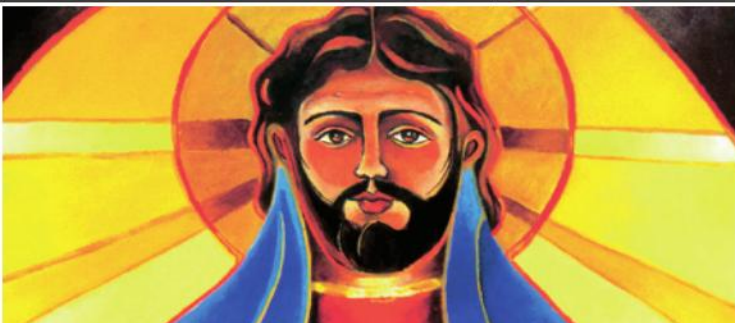
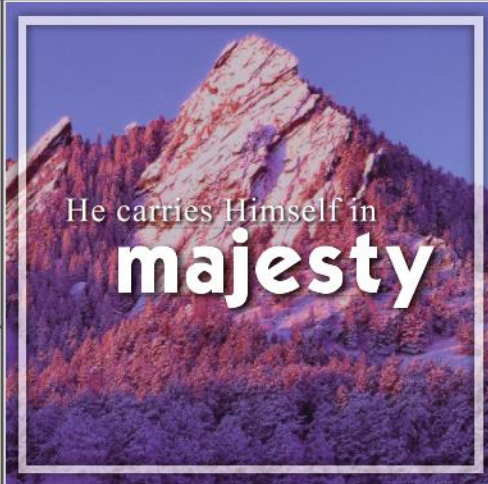
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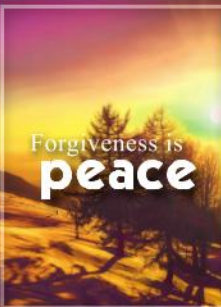
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