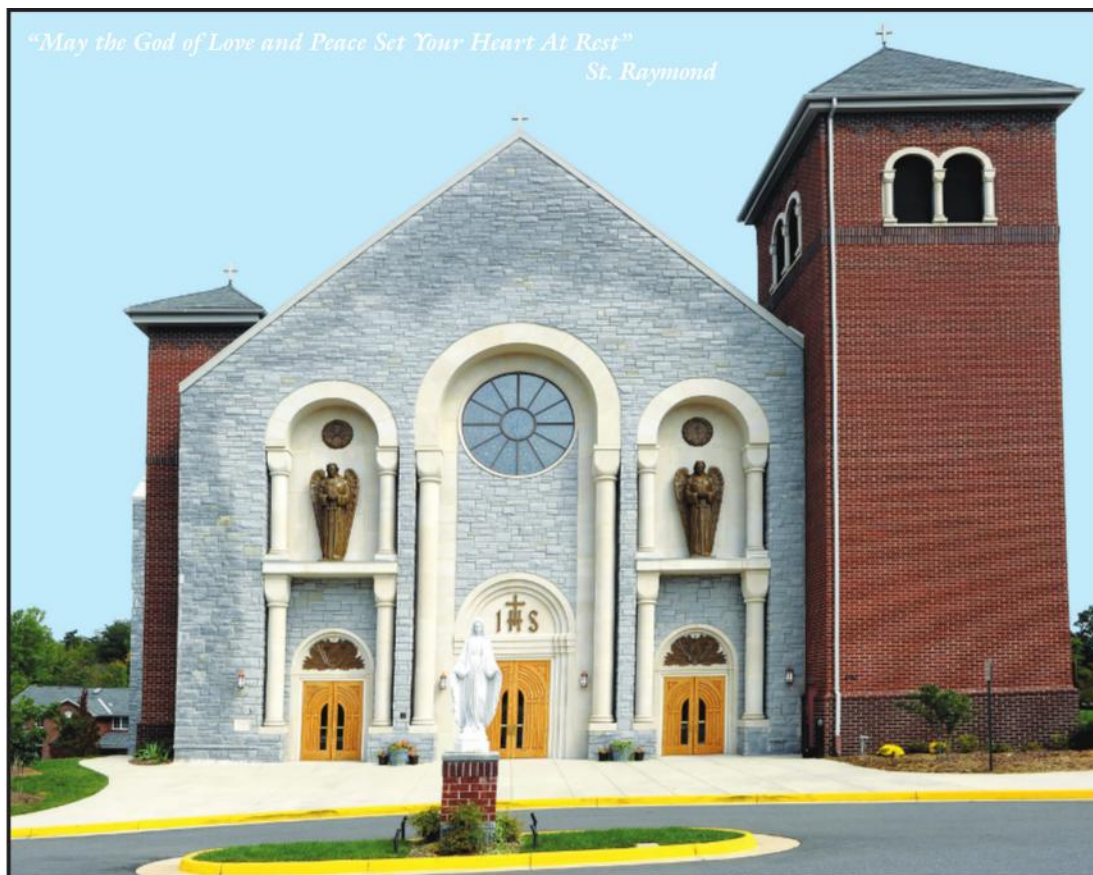


"May the God of Love and Peace Set Your Heart At Rest"
St. Raymond



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

Website

www.straymonds.org

Rev. John C. De Celles, Pastor
Rev. Joseph D. Bergida, Parochial Vicar
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
Maerose Naduvilekunel, 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

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

As we prepare to celebrate the Birth of the United States of America, let us revisit our founding document of liberty (redacted for space), and thank the Lord for His great mercy. God bless America!

Oremus pro invicem, et pro patria nostrum.

Fr. De Celles

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America

When in the Course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. — Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good..... forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them....refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only...called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their Public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures...dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people...refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected ...endeavoured to prevent the population of these States...obstructed the Administration of Justice by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers....made Judges dependent on his Will alone for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries....erected a multitude of New

Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people and eat out their substance....kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures...affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us....protecting them, by a mock Trial from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:

For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world...imposing Taxes on us without our Consent....depriving us in many cases, of the benefit of Trial by Jury...transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences....abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government...

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments...suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us... plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the works of death, desolation, and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & Perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country...excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. ...They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these united Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States, that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. — And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

MASS INTENTIONS**Monday, July 3rd**

6:30 am Margaret Mullany +
8:30 am Emma Berger

Tuesday, July 4th

10:00 am For Our Beloved
Country

Wednesday, July 5th

6:30 am Judy Jageleski
8:30 am Capt. Larry
McKinley +

Thursday, July 6th

6:30 am Patrick John
McDonald +
8:30 am Alphonse Nguyen +

Friday, July 7th

6:30 am Eduardo Visaya +
8:30 am Linda (+) & Greg
Pasternak

Saturday, July 8th

9:00 am Dennis Klitzke +

Vigil Mass

5:00 pm
Eduardo Visaya +

Sunday, July 9th

7:00 am
John P. Rowley +
9:00 am
Parishioners
11:00 am
Donna Hayden Foster
1:00 pm
Matthew & Heather
Perricone

Please pray for our parishioners serving in Combat Zones and their families. If you have a relative serving in harm's way and would like to have his/her name included in our prayer list, please contact the parish office.

Please pray for the sick of our parish

Glenn Bliss Tom Dietz Michael O'Neill Cindy Laird Patricia Lewis Mai Pham Jason Saenz Phyllis Zitnik Patricia Del Buono John Florio Debra Henkel	Michael Malachowski Gaudencio Dizon Paul Haynes Dwayne Taylor Ted Tolpa Nena Brennan Serrin Foster Margaret O'Neill Tom Swengros Megan Bradley	Donald Trayer Ellen Trayer Virginia Cummings Jacques Courtillet Weldon Walker Minerva Barnhart Linda Barnes Peggy Sundberg Ron Karcher Mary Gerken
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Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church

July 3	Family of Jesus Prayer Group & RCIA Class Cancelled
July 4	Federal Holiday - One Mass at 10am Parish Offices Closed
July 5	Adoration 9am - 7pm
July 5	Legion of Mary
July 6	Bridge Club
July 7	First Friday Nocturnal Adoration
July 8	Men's Prayer Group
July 10-21	Parish Hall closed for Summer Maintenance
August 27	Parish Picnic 2-5pm

**View livestreaming of the Holy Mass
at St. Raymond's!**

www.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 and Saturday and Sunday after the 9am Mass. **Please visit our website to sign up to lead during July!** All are invited to attend.

Annual Summer Maintenance in Parish Hall: Please note that during July 10-21, the Parish Hall will be closed, and access to the basement restrooms will be very limited. Please follow the directions on signage in the narthex and vestibules regarding access to the restrooms. The Religious Education offices will be open during their regular hours (M-Th 9:30-4:30), but please follow the signage to determine whether or not there is public access to the offices. Thank you for your cooperation as we strip and re-wax the floors.

First Friday Nocturnal Adoration, July 7. 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.

Plant Manager Vacancy. We are seeking a Full Time Plant Manager. Experience Preferred. To ask questions or to apply, please contact Mary Butler at 703-440-0535 or mary.butler@straymonds.org.

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time "He that shall lose his life for me, shall find it." Find your life by answering God's call in your life. Seek him as you strive for holiness. If you are discerning your vocation, contact Fr. Michael Isenberg, Vocations Director, at (703) 841-2514 or email: vocations@arlingtondiocese.org.

Men's Prayer Group: On the first and third Saturdays of each month a group of men meet in the parish hall to pray and read the Scriptures. They are neither theologians, philosophers, nor great scholars. Just some guys, coming together to pray, read, and share a simple breakfast. For more information, call Dave Wilson, 703-966-5327. **Please note schedule change: Our July meetings will be on July 8 and July 20.**

Family of Jesus Prayer Group: Weekly meetings are in the Church on Mondays at 4:00 pm. If you have any prayer requests, please let us know by emailing Elaine Perricone at jpebtp@verizon.net or by calling the parish office. You may also write down your prayer requests and drop them in the "Prayer Box" on the table in the narthex of the church. **We will not meet on July 3.**

The Seven Sisters Apostolate is a call to women to strengthen the Church by ensuring that a Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for the sole intention of our parish priests. We have Seven Sisters groups for the three priests at St. Raymond's, with someone praying for each of our Lord in the Tabernacle every day of the week! We are in need of a few more women to step into some openings. It is a beautiful apostolate that will exponentially change YOUR prayer life for the better. For more information, contact Suzy McCready at keiffer61@verizon.net or 703-380-4303.

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 Attention, all Knight of Columbus!

Come to the next meeting on Monday, July 10th at 7:30pm and be a part of the next fraternal year (FY 23/24). If you want to learn more about our Council, call the Grand Knight, Mark Menotti, at 401-644-7128 or email mark.menotti@yahoo.com.

Volunteers Needed: St. Margaret of Cortona Transitional & Maternity Housing, a pro-life ministry for pregnant and single mothers in the Diocese, is seeking childcare volunteers on Wednesday nights from 6-7 pm so that the mothers can attend Life Skills classes. Please consider giving an hour of your time to help families grow in mind, body, and spirit! Please call 703-910-4845 or email smc@ccda.net for more information. St. Margaret of Cortona is also in need of household supplies and baby/toddler supplies for our families. Each donation goes directly to mothers in need. For a list of most-needed items, please visit <https://www.ccda.net/give-help/donate-goods-and-transportation/help-individuals-and-families/>.

THE SAMARITAN GROUP WANTS TO HELP YOU! Our parish has a group of volunteers just waiting to provide a ride, bring a meal, or help in some other way during your time of need. If you are experiencing a time of illness, recovery, or other difficulty, let our Samaritans bless you. If we can help or if you want to join the Samaritan volunteer roster, contact the parish office, 703-440-0535.

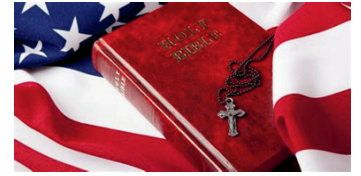
Join the Legion of Mary! The Legion of Mary makes its members better Catholics through prayer, service and evangelization. "Active" members meet weekly for prayer, planning and discussion. In pairs, we perform several hours of apostolic work each week. (At St. Raymond's works include working with/teaching 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.

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 703-687-8987, and for more information, visit <https://www.ccda.net/need-help/medical-and-counseling/counseling/>

Diocesan Kings Dominion Day. Join hundreds from across the Diocese of Arlington for a day of faith and fun on Wednesday, July 26! We will begin the day with Bishop Burbidge for the 9 a.m. Mass at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception in Fredericksburg. After Mass, we will head to Kings Dominion! This event is open to anyone in the Diocese of Arlington. All tickets, at a reduced rate, also include Soak City. The deadline for families to mail in a check and ticket order form is Friday, July 7. For more information, contact Cristina at 703-841-2559 or cristina.catterton@arlingtondiocese.org.

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

"The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction, is the first and only object of good government."
Thomas Jefferson



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 more ways to become involved, please visit: marih.org.

THE ABORTION PILL now accounts for up to 60% of all abortions. Call the abortion reversal helpline 855-209-4848. **It may not be too late.** abortionpillreversal.com.

The Power of Prayer. Abortionists trespass against us. Please continue to pray for their conversion.

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

Natural Family Planning. A gift to your marriage. For more info visit: ccli.org

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: Do not give in to discouragement; do not lose hope. The Father of Mercies is ready to give you His Forgiveness and His Peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation." **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, call 866-444-3553 or contact GabrielProject@arlingtondiocese.org.

IT STANDS TO REASON... There is no morally significant difference between the embryo that you once were and the adult that you are today. Differences of size, level of development, environment, and degree of dependency are not relevant such that we can say that you had no rights as an embryo but you do have rights today. Visit Prolifetraining.com

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>

Please pray for our 19 teens & 5 adults attending the Steubenville Youth Conference at Franciscan University in Ohio next weekend!



THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!! What a year!! There is absolutely no way this year would have been as fruitful as it has been without the help of ALL of the many folks who have stepped up to share their time, talent, and treasure! It would take a whole bulletin to thank everyone by name, but you all know who you are and I pray that your reward will be great in Heaven! I would like to specifically thank a few folks who have gone FAR above and beyond all year long...Alex Kayser, Maricarmen Medina, Jonathan Sipple, Joe Adelman, Sheri Burns, Bobbi Jones, Court & Gretta Wheeler, Michelle Roberts, Katherine Ferguson, Michele O'Kane and Patty Miller. These folks have truly been the backbone of our Youth Apostolate this year, and only 3 of them have kids in the program! Alex, Maricarmen & Jonathan in particular came to nearly every Junior High and High School youth group all year and were always willing to volunteer in any capacity at any time! Maricarmen & Alex even **graciously** accepted my plea to take a week off of work to join us for WorkCamp in order to allow our teens to participate this year when no one else stepped up. And Mrs. Sheri Burns, with an empty nest at home, organized and served our Friday morning Mass group all year once again! It's time to start thinking about next year...so if you love the Catholic faith and want to make a difference in the lives of teens, pray about how you can help! Email Jeanne if you are interested in learning more.

Class of 2023 College Night! The Associates of St. John Bosco invites rising college freshmen to attend a College Night at one of the following parishes **beginning at 7pm:**

July 5 (St. Michael in Annandale)

July 12 (Holy Trinity) -Fr. Bergida & Jeanne plan to go to this one!

July 19 (Basilica of St. Mary in Old Town Alexandria)

July 26 (Holy Cross Academy in Stafford)

College Nights help rising college freshmen and transfer students to network with other Catholics heading to college, and give students the tools to navigate the often difficult transition of faith life in college. Students hear from upperclassmen who give their **personal testimonies** about how they transitioned to college and maintained a strong faith life. There are **small groups divided by students' universities** and students walk away with a free bundle of **Catholic books** called the "Bosco Bundle" that will help them deepen their faith while away at school. The events come with a free pizza dinner, too. Please encourage your senior to sign up! For more information, please visit www.asjb.org. Fr. Bergida & Jeanne plan on attending the one on July 12.

Thursday Gatherings for College Students (including rising freshmen): George Mason University's Catholic Campus Ministry is hosting weekly summer events for college students and graduating high school seniors every Thursday night in June and July at the St. Robert Bellarmine Chapel (4515 Roberts Road, Fairfax). It's a great way to meet college students from different schools who are home for break and/or meet future classmates before school starts! Like us on Facebook: College Summers with GMU CCM. Find out more at www.gmuccm.org

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



May GOD BLESS and PRESERVE OUR NATION!
Happy Fourth of July!!

Teaching Opportunities: Looking for a rewarding opportunity to share your knowledge and passion for teaching? **Consider joining our home school group as a teacher for high school or middle school classes!** Our group is made up of motivated and engaged students who are eager to learn. We welcome teachers from all disciplines. Teachers will have flexibility to set schedule and fees. If you are interested, please contact Katherine or Malia today at straymondhsg@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

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

Marriage Encounter. "I PLACE MUCH OF MY HOPE FOR THE FUTURE IN MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER." (Pope John Paul II) The Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend centers entirely on your relationship. It is a positive, simple, common sense, private experience between you and your spouse, that revitalizes marriage by helping you to see again those loving qualities in each other that you may be taking for granted. For more information or to register, go to WWME.org, click "Apply" and search for "Virginia" or your desired location. Only 25 couples per weekend so register soon! Feel free to contact Mark and Cathy Stangler at 703-378-4150 or mstang1987@aol.com with any questions.
- September 22-24 2023 - Crowne Plaza Hotel, Herndon, VA
- November 17-19 2023 - Holiday Inn, Virginia Beach, VA

Italy Pilgrimage, July 15-25, 2024. You are invited to join Delores Nelson, Rachel Macasieb, and spiritual director, Fr. Nicholas Barnes for an 11-Day Italian pilgrimage! Stops will include Assisi, Loreto, San Giovanni Rotondo, Rome, and more! For more information, please contact Mrs. Nelson at 703-861-2738 or by email at bakhita3@me.com.

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).

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

Church Persecuted

We have reported here previously that both the Biden and Obama administrations have consistently tried and failed to uphold the 2016 Obama administration mandate requiring physicians to perform “gender-transition” surgeries that are either against their religious beliefs or their professional judgement. The mandate is based on a 2016 Obama administration reinterpretation of the Affordable Care Act forcing physicians and hospitals to perform “transgender” surgeries, including on children.

In 2016 in *Franciscan Alliance v. Becerra*, the court blocked the enforcement of the ruling and the Biden administration failed to appeal a court decision. The same year the Sisters of Mercy filed a lawsuit against the mandate because some of the sisters are medical professionals and performing “transgender” surgeries was both against their professional judgement and against their religious beliefs. In *Sisters of Mercy v. Becerra*, the lower court sided with the Sisters. The Biden administration appealed to the Eighth Circuit, which permanently overturned the mandate last year.

We now have two circuit courts that have overturned the mandate. The only appeal is to the U.S. Supreme Court. The rules of the court permit an appeal to be filed within a given time and that expired on June 21, 2023. The effect of this is that the Biden-Obama interpretation of the Affordable Care Act requiring medical professionals to perform “gender-affirming surgeries” is no longer contested by the Biden administration.

The bottom line is that both the Biden and Obama administrations cater to a very small minority of the population who think that such surgeries are a good thing. Studies have shown the devastating effects of such surgeries, especially when performed on children. Perhaps now ALL physicians will see the devastation and refuse to perform the surgeries.

(Catholic Vote online – 6/22/23)

FORMED[®] Get In-Formed!

Listen to *In God We Trust: Your First Amendment Right*. Bishop David Malloy and Monsignor Eric Barr emphasize the need to protect religious freedom that is increasingly under attack in our country. Includes a presentation by Cardinal Timothy Dolan on faithful citizenship.

For Parents. Read *Discovering God Together*. Psychotherapists Greg and Lisa Popcak provide this research-based resource for parents to fortify their families with the Faith.

For Kids of all ages. Listen to *Robinhood*. This nearly 6-hour audio drama of adventure and virtue will engage all who listen. Perfect for long road trips!

See the *Formed bulletin board by the central doors of the narthex for additional suggestions.*

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



Angelus Academy

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

There are still spots available for the 2023-24 school year in our Little Messengers faith formation program for preschoolers. Little Messengers enrollment includes Level I Atrium (Catechesis of the Good Shepherd) sessions each week. Apply soon! AngelusAcademy.org/admissions-overview/applying/

Call or Email Julie Maimone, Director of Admissions, at Admissions@angelusacademy.org for more information or to schedule a tour.

Come visit us and see why our students love coming to school. Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

www.AngelusAcademy.org 703-924-3996
7644 Dynatech Ct., Springfield, VA 22153

Scholarships to Catholic Schools. St. Raymond's will again offer a one-time \$2,000 scholarship for each parish child who is switching from public school (k-12) to Catholic school for the upcoming school year. **For all parish families**, each student in Catholic grade school can receive \$1,000 and Catholic high school students can receive \$2,000. This amount is renewable every year and is subject to minimal qualification terms. Additional financial aid is available if a family truly can't afford Catholic school, even with the above scholarships. These decisions are made on a case by case basis. There is also **assistance available for homeschooling families**. Contact the parish office for more information.

As you are traveling this summer, you can find a Mass near your destination by going to Masstimes.org. Also, please remember that our parish expenses continue while you are away.

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 JUNE 2023

Offertory	\$ 53,590.75
Family Assistance	\$ 2,167.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 6,094.00
Our Lady of Ransom Catholic School Scholarship Donations	\$ 4,077.00
Home Missions Appeal	\$ 1,119.00
Catholic Communications	\$ 864.00
Diocesan Retired Priests	\$ 3,874.00

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Sunday Offertory	\$ 14,590.75
Family Assistance	\$ 580.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 1,365.00
Our Lady of Ransom Catholic School Scholarship Donations	\$ 5,258.00



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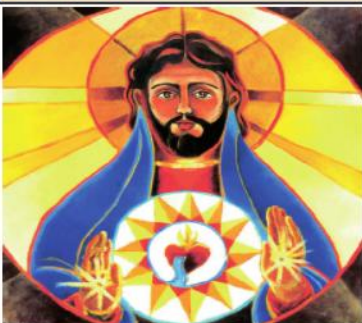
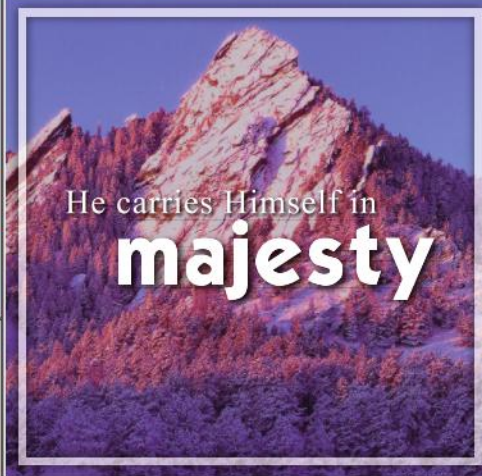
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