

# 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 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

**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

**Hands in Prayer.** In the past I have asked that you refrain from raising or holding hands during the Our Father at Mass, as these are not really the correct postures for the laity. In doing this I have merely tried to instruct and lead, not to scold and coerce.

However, this last week you may have read that the Commission on Liturgy of the Bishops of the Philippines held that the Roman Missal "neither forbids nor prescribes raising hands or holding hands while praying the Lord's Prayer at mass," and so concludes these practices are permitted at Mass.

But as St. Thomas Aquinas would say, "sed contra" ("but to the contrary").

The Commission is wrong. Although the Missal does not explicitly and precisely address this question, it does give rules to follow that the Commission apparently overlooked. Specifically:

"The gestures and bodily posture of ...the people, must be conducive to ....making clear the true and full meaning of its different parts... Attention must therefore be paid to what is determined by this General Instruction and by the traditional practice of the Roman Rite and to what serves the common spiritual good of the People of God, rather than private inclination or arbitrary choice. A common bodily posture, to be observed by all those taking part, is a sign of the unity of the members of the Christian community gathered together for the Sacred Liturgy, for it expresses the intentions and spiritual attitude of the participants and also fosters them." (GIRM 42)

Therefore, even when the Missal doesn't explicitly provide or forbid an action, it presumes on centuries of norms "determined by...the traditional practice of the Roman Rite," and requires that we follow those.

And while the Missal requires "commonly bodily posture" this uniformity finds exception according to the "diverse parts" of its members (i.e. priest, altar servers, laity).

"As to the individual members of the Body, the Eucharistic celebration touches them in different ways, according to their rank, office, and degree of participation in the Eucharist. In this way, the Christian people... demonstrates its cohesion and its hierarchical ordering. Therefore, all, whether ordained ministers or Christian faithful, by virtue of their function or their office, should do all and only those parts that belong to them." (GIRM 91)

Since the Missal is otherwise silent on what the people do with their hands during the Our Father, we are **required** to look to "the traditional practice of the Roman Rite." These traditions are "to be observed by all," and "private inclination or arbitrary choice" is contrary to the "unity," or "communion" of the Mass and the "Communion Rite," of which the Our Father is a part.

And the tradition, for as far back as records of this are kept, has been that the priest alone stands in the "orans" position with hands upheld, while the congregation prays with hands folded (or in some other relaxed position).

Moreover, the tradition has also been that the congregation generally follow the example of the altar servers. And there is an actual explicit written rule about what they (the servers) do with their hands during the Our Father. The *Ceremonial of Bishops*, which is part of the Roman

Ritual (just as the Missal is) provides that servers "...keep their hands joined... when standing." Since the Missal tells them (and the congregation) to stand for the Our Father, the servers are specifically precluded from extending their hands in the orans position. So, following their example, and the tradition, the people "must keep their hands joined."

Now, is it a big deal if you aren't folding your hands in prayer (e.g. you stand with your hand resting on the front of the pew)? No: the tradition was never rigid in forcing this. But it is a bigger deal if you breach all tradition, and adopt the posture not of casualness, and not of the servers, but of the priest. Only the priest is told that he must stand with his hands extended (the "orans position") during the Our Father, and to imitate him is a direct violation of the Missal's rule that the laity "should do all and only those parts that belong to them."

Remember this priestly posture has an important meaning: when the priest is praying with hands extended (orans), this is a symbol that he is praying as the priest of the Mass, in the place of the head of the Body, and in the name of Christ and the people.

So, what about holding hands, can the congregation hold hands during the Our Father? Again, if you're holding hands, you're not following the tradition. Still, some say this is "a sign of unity." However well-intended, it is not really a sign of unity unless everyone does it: some in the congregation don't want to hold hands, so they either won't do so or feel forced into doing so, i.e., forced into adopting the "private inclination or arbitrary choice" of others.

And of course, the servers are required to stand with hands folded, and the priest is required to stand in the orans—and cannot hold hands. What unity is there where some, especially the priest, are excluded?

Last but not least, one of the reasons for uniformity of posture is humility. When some adopt a posture that is both noticeable and significantly different from the rest of the congregation, this tends to call undue attention to oneself. That is not the correct way to approach the One Who "humbled himself ...obedient to death on a Cross."

To Summarize and Clarify: So, to be clear: during the Our Father the congregation should not lift their hands as the priest does, nor should they hold each other's hands.

However, again, I am only attempting to instruct and lead, not to scold and coerce. I'm not upset (except maybe with that Commission on Liturgy), and I'm not trying to chastise anyone. I'm just trying to instruct and bring a greater sense of unity to our liturgy, especially at a time in the Mass when that unity should be especially expressed as we prepare for Holy Communion. I've taught you what is expected. And I remind everyone: we will all show respect and charity toward each other, and leave any judgments to Jesus. All things in charity.

Office Help. I need to hire some part-time help (20 hours/week) to assist the parish office staff. The particular description of the job is still "flexible," depending on the skills of the best person we find, but it will basically involve taking some work off the secretaries' plates. The hours will be flexible as well. Please contact Mary Butler in the office if you are interested.

Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles

#### MASS INTENTIONS

#### Monday, July 24th

6:30 am Sarah Balut + 8:30 am Pauline Drouillard +

#### Tuesday, July 25th

6:30 am Marie Caldavaro + 8:30 am Barry T. O'Hare +

#### Wednesday, July 26th

6:30 am LeRoy Cahart 8:30 am Brad & Catherine Hoopes

#### Thursday, July 27th

6:30 am Family of Susan Wills 8:30 am Martha Riedel +

#### Friday, July 28th

6:30 am John Price + 8:30 am Larry McKinley +

#### Saturday, July 29th

9:00 am Pauline Drouillard +

#### Vigil Mass

5:00 pm Fr. De Celles Priscilla Fritts Clouse +

#### Sunday, July 30th

7:00 am Fr. Rippy
Family of John Price
9:00 am Fr. Horkan
Parishioners
11:00 am Fr. Bergida
Paul Rinn +
1:00 pm Fr. De Celles

Pauline Drouillard +

# 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

First Friday Nocturnal Adoration, August 4. 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. We also need regular adorers and substitutes for adoration on Wednesday and Friday. Contact the parish office for more information.

**Parish Office Help Needed.** The St. Raymond's parish office is in need of additional help with phone calls, walk-in requests, and various projects. Exact duties will be based on skills and interests of the candidate. Position will be part time, approximately 20 hours per week, flexible hours. Ideal candidate has good people skills, experience with Microsoft Office and basic computer tasks, and attention to detail. For more information and to apply, please contact Mary Butler at 703-440-0535 or 703-507-7776 or mary.butler@straymonds.org.

**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.

**Transfiguration Feast Day Food Truck Fellowship:** The Parish has arranged for another Food Truck in honor of **Transfiguration Sunday, August 6, 2023** from 12pm until 3:30pm in front of the rectory. You can enjoy your food on the back patio with your fellow parishioners or take it to-go. Back by popular demand, our vendor is *The Hangry Panda*. Please try out the food; it's delicious and reasonably priced. Stay tuned for preorder information.

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	Gaudencio Dizon	Donald Trayer
Tom Dietz	Michael	Ellen Trayer
Michael O'Neill	Malachowski	Jacques Courtillet
Cindy Laird	Paul Haynes	Virginia
Patricia Lewis	Dwayne Taylor	Cummings
Mai Pham	Ted Tolpa	Linda Barnes
Jason Saenz	Nena Brennan	Peggy Sundberg
Phyllis Zitnik	Serrin Foster	Joanne Griffith
Patricia Del Buono	Margaret O'Neill	William Lemelin
John Florio	Tom Swengros	Arlene Pietraszko
Debra Henkel	Megan Bradley	Ron Karcher

#### **Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church**

July 24	Family of Jesus Prayer Group
July 26	Adoration 9am - 7pm
July 26	Legion of Mary
July 28	Adoration 9am - 3pm
August 4	First Friday Nocturnal Adoration
August 5	Men's Prayer Group
August 5	Luminaries of Holy Mary
August 27	Parish Picnic 2-5pm

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 and August! All are invited to attend.

**SAVE the DATE: PARISH PICNIC! Sunday, August 27th** (2:00pm - 5:00pm) Come enjoy the Annual Parish Picnic with your fellow parishioners. Food and fun for all ages! We are need of volunteers to help with set up, cooking, games, clean up and more. Call the parish office 703-440-0535 for more information or to volunteer.

**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 August 5**. All are welcome.

**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. **Our next meeting is on August 5.** 

Altar Server Training: St Raymond's Parish has a very active Altar Server program. We invite all young men of the Parish to consider becoming an Altar Server. Young men between the ages of 9 and 18, who have received their First Communion are eligible. This is your opportunity to help assist the priest at Mass. Training sessions with Fr. Bergida will begin on September 10, 2023. Please visit <a href="https://forms.gle/Qo37z75z3hekKDdWA">https://forms.gle/Qo37z75z3hekKDdWA</a> or contact the Parish Office at 703-440-0535 to sign up.



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 Contact Deputy Grand Knight Mark Lawton at 703-576

Knights! Contact Deputy Grand Knight Mark Lawton at 703-576 -7693 or go to <a href="http://www.KofC.org/JoinUs">http://www.KofC.org/JoinUs</a> to become a Knight today!

The Knights of Columbus Saint John Bosco Council #12846 would like to express a hearty congratulations to our winners for the Young Man of the Year (YMOY), Chet Bliss, and our Young Woman of the Year (YWOY), Sarah Wadsworth. These individuals are fine examples of what it means to live their Faith and serve their Parish community. This award comes with a certificate and \$400 check, which were presented at a daily Mass last week. Additionally, our Council winners for Knight of the Year (KOY), SK Patrick Franco, and our Family of the Year (FOY), the Lawton Family (Mark and Cindy), were recently presented, and we wish to express our sincere thanks to these Knights and their families.

Blood Drive Signups. The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a blood drive on behalf of Inova Blood Donor Services on Saturday, August 5th, at Nativity Parish from 7:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Please consider signing up for a 15 minute time slot within that period and giving the Gift of Life. You may sign up either online at <a href="https://www.inovabloodsaves.org">www.inovabloodsaves.org</a> or in the Narthex after all masses the next two weekends. If you have any questions or difficulty signing up, please contact Mark Maslyn of our parish at (703) 690-7285 or by email at: <a href="mailto:mam7253@msn.com">mam7253@msn.com</a>.

**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.

**Legion of Mary:** Do you want to develop a closer relationship with our Mother Mary and her Son, Jesus? The Legion of Mary weekly meeting is held on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm in the Maurer Room. All auxiliary members and anyone interested in joining the Legion of Mary are welcome. Point of Contact: Judy Mayer, jmayer9014@aol.com, or 703-627-7320.



A new virtual group for abortion after care for women is starting on Wednesday, September 6 at 7:00 - 8:00 pm for six weeks on Zoom. For confidential inquiries and to learn more, please contact Sarah at info@helpafterabortion.org.

#### SAINT RAYMOND'S RESPECTS LIFE

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

#### Humanae Vitae at 55

Some consider this encyclical to be controversial, yet in truth it provides beautiful and clear teaching about God's plan for married love and the transmission of life. On July 25<sup>th</sup> 1968, Pope (now Saint) Paul VI proved to be prophetic when warning that artificial methods of birth control would open the way to lowering moral standards for the young as well as leading to marital infidelity; that the use of contraception would lead to the lowering of respect for women stating that husbands would regard their wives as mere instruments to serve their own desires and that the use of artificial methods of contraception would be a dangerous tool in the hands of government or public authorities who care little about the moral law and who may force the use of contraceptives on everyone...What do you think? Have these warnings come true? The complete document is short and readily available online. Read it for yourself!

Celebrate National Natural Family Planning (NFP)
Awareness Week July 22-29. The theme is: Marriage: One Flesh, Given and Received Supporting God's gifts of love and life in marriage. Learn more at: <a href="https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/nfp/">www.arlingtondiocese.org/nfp/</a>

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

# DEFENDING HUMAN DIGNITY IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE: EDUCATE and ENGAGE

The 2023 election cycle is critical for Virginia. Every seat in the state House and Senate is up for election. Engage in the electoral process to elect future lawmakers who will respect human life, dignity, and religious liberty. Sessions sponsored by the Diocesan Office of Family Life are free but require registration.

Wednesday, August 23: St. Leo the Great after the 9am morning Mass <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/649163815447">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/649163815447</a>

OR at 7pm https://www.eventbrite.com/e/649172862507

**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.** 

**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 **amonspeace.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.

### 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

#### **High School Movie Outing: Sound of Freedom**

Parents are also encouraged to join us. "Human trafficking is the second largest, and fastest growing, criminal enterprise in the United States, second only in size to the drugs trade. There are over 40 million children and vulnerable adults around the globe who are victims of this industry, with child sex-trafficking reported in all 50 U.S. states and tens of thousands of missing children feared to have become victims of it." www.angel.com/freedom

Date/ Time/ Location sent in YA email (not available before bulletin deadline).

7-9pm Wednesday, July 26th at Holy Cross Academy (Stafford) Class of 2023 College Night! The Associates of St. John Bosco invite rising college freshmen to attend College Night at 7pm this Wednesday, at 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. Upperclassmen will give 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 that will help them deepen their faith while away at school. Free pizza dinner is also included. Go to <a href="https://www.asjb.org">www.asjb.org</a> for more information.

# 7-9pm Thursday, July 27th at GMU Gathering for ALL College students (including rising freshmen):

George Mason University's Catholic Campus Ministry invites all college students and 2023 high school graduates for a fun night together! Come meet college students from different schools who are home for break and/or meet future classmates before school starts! Find out more at <a href="https://www.gmuccm.org">www.gmuccm.org</a>

Thank you all for your many prayers over the past few weeks! Between WorkCamp and Steubenville... all I can say is WOW!! Our WorkCampers had an incredible week meeting youth and adults from all over our diocese, serving our neighbors in need in the Winchester/Front Royal area, experiencing Christ's love for us through the sacraments and in one another. Likewise, the Steubenville Youth Conference was quite a powerful experience for our group, many of whom came home ardently desiring a deeper relationship with Christ through more frequent reception of the Holy Eucharist, Confession and a desire to encounter Him through establishing a habit of daily personal prayer. God is so good!! Thank you to ALL who helped in so many ways, big and small, to make these experiences possible or our teens. Special thanks to the adults who accompanied them. Please continue to keep them and the rest of our Youth Apostolate in your prayers! It has been a very busy month for me, but I wouldn't trade it for the world! I need a little time to catch my breath and catch up on some admin stuff, but once I do, I will be putting a calendar together for the remainder of the summer and next year. Please pray about helping out with the Youth Apostolate and keep your eyes peeled for an upcoming meeting for parents and volunteers! I cannot do this without your help!

#### 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:** It is time to register your children (grades K-12) for the 2023-2024 Religious Education (CCD) academic year!!!!

We are in need of the following **volunteers** for the upcoming CCD year:

Monday (4:45-6:15 p.m.):

Grade 7 Assistant Teacher Grade 8 Assistant Teacher

RCIC (grades 6-8) Assistant Teacher

Please contact the Religious Education Office if you are interested in any of the positions listed above.

\*\* Attention volunteers for the 2023-2024

academic year: there is a kick-off meeting scheduled for August 26th - ALL VOLUNTEERS are expected to attend. \*\*

**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 <a href="mailto:straymondhsg@gmail.com">straymondhsg@gmail.com</a>. 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.

**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 <u>dancertoo2@yahoo.com</u> or James Kolakoski at 703-455-3009 <u>bridgeclub402@gmail.com</u> if you are interested in joining us. We resume play on July 27th.

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 before 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 <a href="mailto:keiffer61@verizon.net">keiffer61@verizon.net</a> or 703-380-4303.

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 <a href="mailto:jpebtp@verizon.net">jpebtp@verizon.net</a> 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.

**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 <a href="https://www.ccda.net/need-help/medical-and-counseling/counseling/">https://www.ccda.net/need-help/medical-and-counseling/counseling/</a>

#### **Church Persecuted**

In 2019 Roncalli Catholic High School in Indianapolis Indiana did not renew the contract of a guidance counselor because she had previously notified the school that she was in a same-sex marriage. This was explicitly contrary to the school's mission statement that marriage is only between "one man and one woman." The teacher sued, contending that the school had violated Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The three-judge panel in the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals unanimously dismissed the case on July 13<sup>th</sup> by stating that "employment discrimination suits [are barred] 'when the employer is a religious group and the employee is one of the group's ministers.' This is what has long been called 'the ministerial exception'.... As the [Supreme] Court explained '[requiring] a church to accept or retain an unwanted minister, or punishing a church for failing to do so, intrudes upon more than a mere employment decision.... Such action interferes with the internal governance of the church, depriving the church of control over the selection of those who will personify its beliefs.""

Roncalli won a favorable judgment by the same court in 2018 for a different counselor for the same reason. In 2022 the Indiana Supreme Court ruled in favor of another Catholic school in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. This case had nearly identical circumstances.

What is significant in each of these cases is that the schools and archdioceses had specific policies in place in their handbooks, employment contracts, etc. which prohibited recognition of marriages in any form other than between one man and one woman.

https://lc.org/newsroom/details/071823-court-upholds-religious-schools-employment-freedom-1



Get In-Formed!

#### DID YOU KNOW???

After registering for FORMED at <u>formed.org/signup</u>, you can download the FORMED App to watch on other devices: iOS, Android, Roku, FireTV, Chromecast, and AppleTV.

No internet? No problem! Enjoy offline playback by downloading the FORMED app on your portable device, finding the content you want to watch offline, and downloading it to your device. Then **watch it anywhere** <u>without Internet</u>. You can also permanently download books from the FORMED App to the Kindle App in iOS.

You can create a "My List" of content and go back to it any time when you're ready to watch, listen, or read.

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! <a href="mailto:AngelusAcademy.org/admissions-overview/applying/">AngelusAcademy.org/admissions-overview/applying/</a>

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.

**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).

As you are traveling this summer, you can find a Mass near your destination by going to <u>Masstimes.org</u>. 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 <a href="faith.direct/VA64">faith.direct/VA64</a>. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family. God bless you.

#### LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Sunday Offertory\$ 13,414.00Family Assistance\$ 562.00Maintenance Fund\$ 1,558.00

**Our Lady of Ransom Catholic** 

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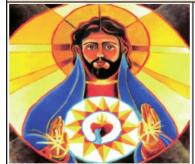
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