

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

Humanae Vitae. This last Tuesday, July 25, was the anniversary of *Humanae Vitae*, Pope Paul VI's 1968 encyclical reaffirming the ancient and apostolic teaching of the Church that **contraception is a grave sin**. In the years since, his words have been largely ignored by the world, even by Catholics. But they still remain as true today as ever. Moreover, his explanations of the reasons for and the consequences of disregarding this teaching have been proven out over the years. He warned that it would lead to increased sexual infidelity and "the general lowering of morality," especially among young men, and that eventually men would lose respect for women, seeing them only as object of selfish enjoyment. Elsewhere he would specifically point to the immediate connection between contraception and abortion.

Over the last 55 years we have seen this all bear out as we've seen the dramatic and catastrophic increase in divorce, marital infidelity, pornography, abortion, prostitution, teenage pregnancy and promiscuity, child abuse, wife abuse, and acceptance of homosexuality and transgenderism.

But Pope Paul also recognized that it was morally acceptable, for a "just reason," to "regulate birth" using methods that take into account the "natural rhythms" of the fertility cycle of women. Today several highly scientific methods are available to couples in this regard, usually referred to as "Natural Family Planning" (NFP). These are very effective as a moral methods of both postponing and promoting conception.

Sunday Mass Obligation. It always surprised me how many Catholics don't know that it is a mortal sin to miss Mass on Sunday or on any other Holy Day of Obligation. As the Catechism reminds us: "The [first] precept of the Church specifies the law of the Lord more precisely: 'On Sundays and other holy days of obligation **the faithful are bound to participate in the Mass**'..." [2042]. This obligation may be fulfilled "on the evening of the preceding day," e.g. the Saturday Vigil Mass.

During Covid this obligation was **temporarily** dispensed by our Bishop. But that dispensation no longer exists, and the **Sunday obligation again applies to all of us**, except for: "those who...have reason to believe that they were recently exposed to the coronavirus, another serious or contagious illness;...are confined to their home,...or nursing facility; or those with serious underlying health conditions."

If you have any question as to whether you are obligated to attend Mass on Sunday's let me know. Remember, as the Catechism states (2181) "**Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin.**"

The Church acknowledges certain other general exceptions from any obligations created by any merely Church law, i.e., when: 1) you are truly unable to do what is obliged, or 2) the obligation conflicts with another equally important obligation. So, for example, if you're sick (as is discussed above), or if there is inclement weather, and you are not able to go out because of ice or heavy rain or snow (this especially applies to some of our elderly). Another case would be those who are required by employers to work on Sunday, and those who do critical work for the common good, i.e., policemen, nurses, etc. Still another case is that of a mother or father having to stay home to take care of a sick child.

Some ask whether they are excused from Sunday (or Holy Day) Mass when they are on vacation or otherwise travelling. The answer is "no," unless one of the exceptions

above specifically applies. The Church recognizes and, to some extent, encourages the importance of recreation in the form of vacation. So that if the circumstances of your vacation cause you to be truly unable to attend Mass, you are excused. So, for example, you are free to choose to go on a cruise, or travel to a non-Christian country, even though there may be no Mass available. Moreover, if you are camping out in some place hours away from a Mass, or if you're on a guided tour that requires you to be with the group on Sunday, you are excused as unable to go to Mass. Also, if you are travelling in such a way that it is not possible to attend Mass, you are excused: let's say you are flying on a Sunday, leaving at 5am and arriving at 7pm.

Most (but not all) orthodox priest-confessors and theologians believe that this would apply to all-day car trips on a Sunday, since it is so difficult to coordinate Mass times in strange cities along the way. Moreover, car trips provide unique challenges to families with little children (parents have special obligations here), that might make it extra difficult. Note though, with the availability of internet and smart phones this is less difficult today than in the past.

Even so, the obligation to attend Sunday and Holy Day Mass is a grave one, never to be excused lightly. One should not seek out, invent or make excuses for missing Mass. The reason for the exception must be genuine. For example, if a worker could easily get off from work by simply asking the boss for Sundays off, then there is no excuse not to go to Mass. Or if you're on vacation in a non-Catholic country, but there's a Catholic church just 15 minutes away, there is no excuse. Or if you drank too much the night before, that may be a *reason* you are physically unable go to Mass, but it is not an *excuse* from your obligation since you freely chose the consequences of your actions the night before.

And remember: you can also go to Saturday evening Vigil Mass. And if you think you might run into difficulty attending Mass at any time, especially on vacation, you can ask your pastor (me) for dispensation (if you are my parishioner), and I can commute it to some other pious spiritual act (e.g., watching Mass on TV, saying the Rosary, reading the Scriptures).

Enjoy your travels and vacations this summer. But go to Mass. And if you miss Mass without a serious excuse, make sure you go to Confession before you return to Holy Communion.

Baptizing Babies ASAP! There is a growing tendency of parents to postpone the baptism of their babies for months after birth. This is a huge risk—and normally a mortal sin.

Baptism is not merely a nice symbolic rite of passage. Rather it is a necessary sacrament, that washes away original sin and gives a share in the Eternal Life of God to the baptized. The grace of Baptism is necessary for salvation, as Christ taught: "no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit"—John 3:5). And while the Church teaches that God sometimes gives the grace of Baptism in extraordinary ways, e.g., martyrdom, the Church has always maintained that *it does not know* if anything like that applies to *babies who die without baptism*.

Because of this, and with loving concern for the eternal souls of babies, the Church requires [Can. 867 §1]: "**Parents are obliged to see that their infants are baptized within the first few weeks**" after birth.

Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles

MASS INTENTIONS

<u>Monday, July 31st</u> 6:30 am Susan Wills + 8:30 am Catherine Hoopes	<u>Saturday, August 5th</u> 9:00 am Barbara DeCelles +
<u>Tuesday, August 1st</u> 6:30 am Valerie O'Hare + 8:30 am Michael Berger	<u>Vigil Mass</u> 5:00 pm Fr. Horkan Mike Krosnick +
<u>Wednesday, August 2nd</u> 6:30 am Jennifer Anezin 8:30 am Paul Rinn +	<u>Sunday, August 6th</u> 7:00 am Fr. Horkan RE Students & their Families 9:00 am Fr. De Celles Parishioners 11:00 am Fr. Rippy Arsenio Veneracion, Jr. + 1:00 pm Fr. De Celles Isabel, Jose, & Gregorio Calayag
<u>Thursday, August 3rd</u> 6:30 am Gerard Crennan + 8:30 am Paul Rinn +	
<u>Friday, August 4th</u> 6:30 am Donald Blumhoff Sr. + 8:30 am Bob (+) & Rita Boyle	

**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 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.

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. Pre-orders are highly recommended (albeit curbside orders will also be available). To order in advance, simply go to their website and look for Saint Raymond's address (8750 Pohick Road) under "Locations" and choose a time. [HANGRY PANDA \(square.site\)](https://www.hangrypanda.com/square) or try the QR Code.



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	Gaudencio Dizon Michael Malachowski Paul Haynes Dwayne Taylor Ted Tolpa Nena Brennan Serrin Foster Margaret O'Neill Tom Swengros Megann Bradley	Donald Trayer Ellen Trayer Jacques Courtillet Virginia Cummings Linda Barnes Peggy Sundberg Joanne Griffith William Lemelin Arlene Pietraszko
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Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church

July 31	Family of Jesus Prayer Group
August 2	Adoration 9am - 7pm
August 2	Legion of Mary
August 4	First Friday Nocturnal Adoration
August 5	Men's Prayer Group
August 5	Luminaries of Holy Mary
August 6	Feast Day Food Truck, 12-3:30pm
August 15	Solemnity of the Assumption, Holy Day of Obligation; Vigil 8/14 at 7pm
	8/15 6:30am, 8:30am, Noon, & 7pm
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 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, and check your email for the sign-up!

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 <https://forms.gle/Qo37z75z3hekKDdWA> or contact the Parish Office at 703-440-0535 to sign up.



PUT YOUR FAITH INTO ACTION -- Join the Knights! The Knights of Columbus is an International Order of Catholic men who are called to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others, and defend values in a busy, changing world. Join the St. John Bosco Council of St. Raymond's parish today! Simply go to <https://www.kofc.org/joinus> or use the QR code below and experience the Knights free for one year: Enter the Agent Code "CPEREZ", click "Add" and complete the form. Be sure to enter our council #12846 for local information when you register. Please call our Deputy Grand Knight, Mark Lawton, at (703) 576-7693 if you have any questions. We look forward to your responding to the call and stepping up to become a Knight of Columbus!

Upcoming events for the Knights include:

8/5 Blood Drive at Nativity Parish; **8/5** Men's Prayer Breakfast; **8/6** Feast Day Food Truck Fraternity (Hangry Panda; 12pm-3:30pm); **8/14** Membership Meeting (7:30PM – Parish Hall; 7PM Rosary in Library); **8/15** MEMORIAL of BLESSED MCGIVNEY (BLESSED MCGIVNEY'S BIRTHDAY is 8/12) **8/19** Men's Prayer Breakfast; **8/19** Fred Nats baseball game; **8/27** Parish Picnic (2-5pm)

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 www.inovabloodsaves.org or in the Narthex after all masses this weekends. If you have any questions or difficulty signing up, please contact Mark Maslyn of our parish at (703) 690-7285 or by email at: mam7253@msn.com.

Back to School New Sock and Underwear Drive: The St. Martin de Porres Committee is sponsoring a "Back to School" drive for needy students in the Springfield area. We will be accepting donations of NEW socks and underwear for school aged children (age 5-17). A collection box will be in the narthex August 4 - 14. For health code reasons we can only accept new items. Requested items are:

Boys: socks, undershirts, briefs and boxers
Girls: socks, tights, undershirts, camisoles and briefs
Thank you for supporting a good community cause!

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

Join Bishop Burbidge for Holy Mass in Thanksgiving for the Gift of Human Life, Sat, Aug. 19, 2023, at 9 a.m., at Good Shepherd Catholic Church, Alexandria. Mass will be followed by a rosary at the abortion facility at 2616 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria

Volunteering & Ways to Support Project Rachel

The diocesan Project Rachel after abortion care ministry has new prayer support and outreach opportunities, for both women and men. If you are a helping professional (i.e. licensed counselor, social worker, nurse) and/or a part of a service agency (i.e. healthcare, education, addiction recovery, sex trafficking or abuse, homeless shelters, prison system), please contact director Sarah LaPierre at info@helpafterabortion.org to discover more about being involved in integrated community grassroots efforts.

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

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 <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/649163815447>

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

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.

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>

CCD & Youth Group for 7-8th Grade & 9-12th Grade

Learning about our Faith is a life-long process... and does not end after Confirmation. We should all continue to seek out opportunities to learn more about our Faith throughout our entire lives. AND at the same time, it is super important to have friends who share your values and beliefs, with whom you can form life-long friendships and grow in the Faith ... thus youth group! Don't forget to sign up for CCD at <https://bit.ly/CCDforMe> We have a TOP NOTCH high school program open to all 9-12th graders, whether public, private, or home schooled. Come check it out! No charge for HS CCD.

Youth Group & CCD start up again September 10th:

4-5:30pm Junior High Youth Group
5:30-7pm 7-12th Grade CCD
7-8:30pm High School Youth Group

High School Men: Last Tuesday was the Feast of St. James the Apostle, brother of John. Jesus called these brothers "Sons of Thunder." We are happy to announce our high school "Sons of Thunder" group will re-start **September 19, 2023**. Mark your calendars, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, 7-8:30 pm in the Maurer Room. Come hungry (physically and intellectually) and ready to rumble. More details to follow.

Are you on the Youth Apostolate Email list? If you have children in grades 7-12, make sure you are on our email list for the most updated information on Youth Apostolate news and upcoming events! Email Jeanne: youth@straymonds.org

VOLUNTEERS OF ALL AGES with Time, Talent and/or Treasure NEEDED: Please pray about helping out with the Youth Apostolate this year! Our Youth Apostolate is very busy, especially come September, between weekly youth group meetings on Sunday nights for junior high and for high school, our high school guys' and girls' groups, service projects, monthly high school swing dances, fundraisers, WorkCamp, Steubenville, our Confirmation retreat, Friday Mass & Breakfast before school, and various other activities, plus a whole bunch more things the kids would love to do if we had more volunteers! We have a great need for volunteers (ALL AGES) in MANY areas, from relational ministry to decorating bulletin boards to baking cookies. And perhaps one of the most important volunteer roles is being a part of our backbone of prayer--the foundation of everything we do. Pray about whether God might be calling you to share your time, talent, and/or treasure with our youth this year...and **keep your eyes peeled for an upcoming meeting for parents and potential volunteers!**

VOLUNTEER BREAKFAST COORDINATOR NEEDED:

Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity within the parish that has the ability to help you grow in virtue and at the same time to change the world? Support our parish teens who want to start off their Fridays during the academic year with 6:30 am mass, breakfast and Christian fellowship before they head to classes. As breakfast coordinator, you'll organize the team of volunteers who create a brunch-like meal and create an environment where students can support and strengthen each other for the day ahead. Our parish priests join them and great conversation takes place each week. **Tasks:** Create the schedule with the YA director; maintain the volunteer sign up schedule; ensure supplies are present; be available from 6:00- 8:00 am each week – set up through clean up; and enjoy getting to know, mentor, and support great teens who will go out and change the world, knowing that their parish has their back! Contact Jeanne for more info!

Jeanne Sause

Director of the Youth Apostolate (Grades 7-12)
youth@straymonds.org Call/Text: 571-334-9890

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

You can find the bright green registration form in the Narthex of the church, outside the Religious Education office, in the parish office or online.

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 straymondhsg@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

Bridge Club: All levels of players are welcome. We play Bridge cards each week in the Church Hall. Contact Lois Kotlowski at 703-455-6567 dancertoo2@yahoo.com or James Kolakoski at 703-455-3009 bridgeclub402@gmail.com if you are interested in joining us.

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 keiffer61@verizon.net 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 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.

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.

Church Persecuted

St. John Henry Newman was one of the most prolific writers on Catholicism in the 19th century. The Anglican-priest-turned-Catholic-cardinal moved from a tutor at Oxford, to an Anglican parish priest, to a Catholic priest, to a university founder, to a cardinal, and a century and a quarter later, a declared saint. Newman wrote about almost every subject, but his most significant volume on education is his *Idea of a University*.

In *Idea of a University*, Newman writes about the integration of faith and science, faith and truth, and faith and understanding as essential elements in the organization of a university. They go hand in hand. A true university cannot have one without the other. Catholic universities around the world blended theology and philosophy with the science and mathematics.

For many Catholic universities in the United States, that ended with the Land o' Lakes conference in 1967 which declared independence of Catholic universities from "authority of whatever kind, lay or clerical, external to the academic community itself." Over the next years, "most Catholic colleges and universities shed their legal ties to the Church and handed their institutions over to independent boards of trustees." Georgetown removed the crucifixes from the classroom walls and replaced their Catholic identity with terms such as "in the Jesuit tradition." (See <https://cardinalnewmansociety.org/land-o-lakes-statement-caused-devastation-50-years/>). Today many of the smaller colleges which subscribed to this philosophy wandered so far from Catholicism that they became an expensive version of the local community college or state university. Many have closed.

Summertime is when rising high school seniors solidify their college plans. The Cardinal Newman Society's "Newman Guide" provides parents and students alike a list of faithfully Catholic colleges, one of which is located close by in Front Royal, VA. Check out the college profiles, at <https://NewmanGuide.org>.



Get In-Formed!

Road Trip! Take Formed with you on vacation. Enjoy great Catholic programming for yourself and your family. Watch, listen, or read FORMED content anywhere. Download to your portable device using the FORMED App to use *without the internet*.

Listen to an **audio drama** in the car: *The Victory of Joan of Arc*, *The Trials of St. Patrick*, *Brother Francis: The Barefoot Saint of Assisi*, *Ode to Saint Cecilia*, *The Legends of Robin Hood*, and more. Many are appropriate and enjoyable for all ages.

Plan an at-home or on-the-go **mini-retreat**. Try one of the many *Lectio* series on Evangelization, the Eucharist, Mary, Prayer, The Case for Jesus, Peter, or various books of the Bible.

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 JULY 2023

Offertory	\$ 57,805.46
Family Assistance	\$ 2,693.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 6,118.00
Our Lady of Ransom Catholic	
School Scholarship Donations	\$ 7,249.96
Sol. Fund for Church in Africa	\$ 502.00

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Sunday Offertory	\$ 10,863.00
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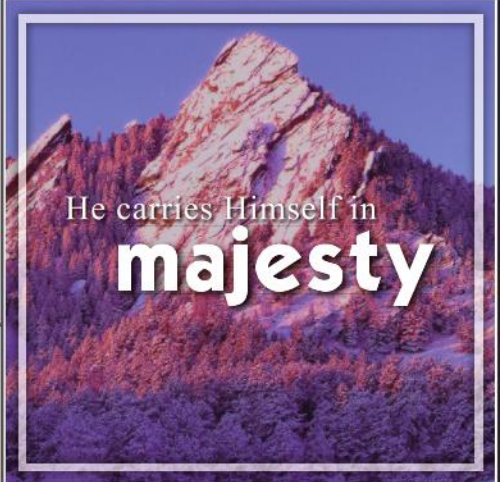
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