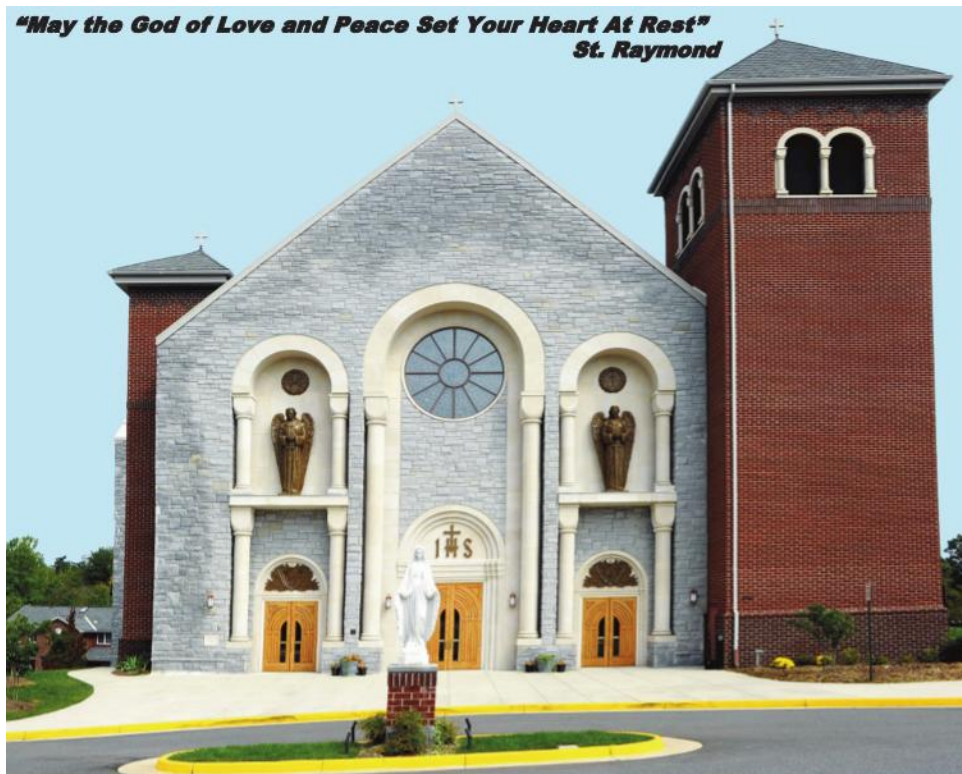


**"May the God of Love and Peace Set Your Heart At Rest"
St. Raymond**



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 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

Fr. Bergida's Travels. Fr. Bergida will be away from the parish on "business" from August 1 to 25. This trip has been planned since before he first joined us in February. With the Bishop's blessing, and mine, he will be visiting parishes in several different states and be giving talks for "parish missions." He asks for your prayers for safe travels and his mission.

Knights of Columbus. Our Council of the Knights has just presented a \$20,000 donation to the **Tepeyac Pro-Life Pregnancy Center** (Divine Mercy Care). The donation was matched (+\$20,000) by the Supreme Council of the K of C for a total of \$40,000. The funds will be used by Tepeyac to purchase a new 4D Ultrasound. Kudos and thanks to the men of the Knights of Columbus (our parishioners) for their generosity and commitment to the Pro-Life cause and to assist pregnant mothers.

Tepeyac OB/GYN is a pro-life faith based obstetrics and gynecology practice serving the metropolitan DC/NOVA/MD area for over 25 years.

Their mission is to "restore the integrity of the human person by combining the best of modern medicine with the healing presence of Jesus Christ."

Welcome to New Parishioners. Summer is always a time we lose and gain parishioners, especially those in the military. So I'd like to welcome all who have joined us in the last few months. I hope you find St. Raymond's to be a welcoming parish, and I encourage you to get involved in our many liturgies, committees, and activities.

Please **make sure you register with our parish office**, so we can send you regular email updates on what's going on in the parish. You can register in person, by filling out a registration form in the church narthex and drop it in the mail or the Sunday offertory basket, or by visiting our parish website and clicking the menu "Welcome," and then click to the page "New to St. Raymond's" (the link to the form is near the bottom of that page).

One thing to know about our parish is that we place great importance on the Grace and Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Flowing from this you will find a pronounced emphasis on reverence, especially during Holy Mass, what I call **"emphatic reverence."** Nowadays reverence seems to be a lost virtue. The word "reverence" comes from the Latin for "fear," "revere," and Scripture tells us, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom." But this kind of fear is not like being in terror or afraid, but rather being in "awe": recognizing that God is the all-powerful creator and sustainer of the whole world, and I am just a little tiny speck in comparison—and yet, he loves me. So Christian reverence is fundamentally rooted in love.

So we go out of our way here in our liturgies to be reverent, to remind ourselves we are in presence of God, the God who loved us so much He became one of us and died for our sins on the Cross, and gave us the Eucharist to be with us always, even to enter into us, especially in the mystery of His Sacrifice.

To encourage this reverence, we follow some ancient customs of the Church that set the liturgy apart as radically different from the mundane world we live in. For example, we sing traditional Catholic hymns, which are different than most contemporary liturgical music that incorporates so many aspects of modern secular music. And we use the ancient language of the Church, Latin, to remind us we're doing something very different, in union with the Church all the way back to time of Jesus. And at many Masses the priest turns with the people, so that, facing in the same way as them, he leads them in prayer before the Most High God. We also use an altar rail to give folks

the option to kneel to receive Our Lord in Holy Communion.

Things are just a little different here at St. Raymond's. But then again, so is God. Welcome to St. Raymond's.

Thou Shall Not Commit Adultery. From Foxnews.com:

"Conservatives had mixed reactions to South Carolina Rep. Nancy Mace's risqué anecdote at a prayer breakfast in Washington, D.C..."

"Mace said Wednesday that her fiancé tried to keep her in bed that morning, but she insisted she needed to get to the breakfast on time."

"When I woke up this morning at 7, ...Patrick, my fiancé, tried to pull me by my waist over this morning in bed. And I was like, 'No, baby, we don't got time for that this morning,'" Mace remarked. "I gotta get to the prayer breakfast, and I gotta be on time," she said.

"A little TMI," Mace joked as the crowd chuckled. "He can wait, I'll see him later tonight," Mace added.

"The clip of her speech went viral on Twitter on Thursday. Mace reacted in a tweet saying, 'I go to church because I'm a sinner not because I'm a saint!....Glad those in attendance, including @SenatorTimScott and our pastor, took this joke in stride. Pastor Greg and I will have a little extra to talk about on Sunday now,' she said."

Just to be clear: what she is describing, sex before marriage, is "adultery." That, and her clear intention not to repent ("I'll see him later tonight") is a mortal sin. It's one thing to be a sinner, it's another thing to think it's okay to be a sinner and to think it's something to joke about. Guys: offending God is not funny. Going to hell is not funny. Corrupting the morals of America is not funny.

It's Called a "WALL." Did you see this story reported in an excellent commentary by Joshua Arnold in "The Washington Stand"?

"No irony is more delicious than when a progressive stumbles upon an old, discarded, but sensible idea and believes they have found something new. Representative Steve Cohen (D-Tenn.) provided the latest example of this..."

"My teammates and I were forced to undress in the presence of Lia [Thomas], a six-foot, four-[inch] tall biological male, fully intact with male genitalia, 18 times per week," said former UPenn swimmer Paula Scanlan during Thursday testimony before the House Judiciary Committee.

"When we tried to voice our concerns to the athletic department...we were told that Lia's swimming and being in our locker room was a non-negotiable.... we were offered psychological services to attempt to re-educate us to become comfortable with the idea of undressing in front of a male..."

"Scanlan's account of palpable injustice was... so moving that one of the committee Democrats tried to suggest a solution.... Cohen told her. 'They should have been putting up some type of different barriers in the women's area of the locker room.'

"Ah, yes....Women object to sharing a locker room facility with males, so how can we give them extra privacy? Perhaps some sort of barrier would do. ...Mr. Architect, we need a permanent, opaque barrier to divide a space; now, what would you call that?..."

"Barrier' is a two-syllable synonym for 'wall'...In fact, a 'wall' is typically all that separates the women's locker room from the men's locker room..."

Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, August 7th

6:30 am Matt Severin +
 8:30 am Doug & Genevieve
 Maines

Tuesday, August 8th

6:30 am Virginia
 McReynolds +
 8:30 am Nashville Dominican
 Sisters

Wednesday, August 9th

6:30 am Margot Carter Blair
 8:30 am Family of Jesus
 Prayer Group

Thursday, August 10th

6:30 am Charles Render
 8:30 am Diedre Sexton +

Friday, August 11th

6:30 am James Seville +
 8:30 am Elna Kearns +

Saturday, August 12th

9:00 am Kelly & Lynne
 LaFleur +

Vigil Mass

5:00 pm
 Anna Mildred Mault +

Sunday, August 13th

7:00 am
 Matt Severin +
 9:00 am
 Parishioners
 11:00 am
 William Sears +
 1:00 pm
 Christopher Reaver +

**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

**St. Raymond's has Adoration most Wednesdays and
 Fridays!**

Would you like to spend an hour in silent prayer and reflection with our Lord during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament? We are in need of weekly adorers especially at 4:00 pm on Wednesdays and 1:00 pm on Fridays. We also need volunteers to be on our substitute list. If you are interested in Wednesdays, please call Leslie Schratz at 703-569-1940 or email spoiledk9s@verizon.net. If you are interested in Fridays, please call Virginia Osella at 703-440-0535 or email virginia.osella@straymonds.org. Drop-ins are always welcome!

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. **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.

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 \(square.site\)](http://HANGRY_PANDA.square.site) 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	Michael	Jacques Courtillet
Tom Dietz	Malachowski	Virginia
Michael O'Neill	Paul Haynes	Cummings
Cindy Laird	Dwayne Taylor	Linda Barnes
Patricia Lewis	Ted Tolpa	Peggy Sundberg
Mai Pham	Nena Brennan	Joanne Griffith
Jason Saenz	Serrin Foster	Arlene Pietraszko
Phyllis Zitnik	Margaret O'Neill	Kevin Jackson
Patricia Del Buono	Tom Swengros	Jean Seiberling
John Florio	Megan Bradley	Chris Thomason
Debra Henkel	Donald Trayer	Joan McDonald
Gaudencio Dizon	Ellen Trayer	

Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church

August 6	Feast Day Food Truck, 12-3:30pm
August 7	Family of Jesus Prayer Group
August 9	Adoration 9am - 7pm
August 9	Legion of Mary
August 11	Adoration 9am - 3pm
August 14	KofC Membership Meeting 7:30pm
August 15	Solemnity of the Assumption, Holy Day of Obligation; Vigil 8/14 at 7pm
	8/15 6:30am, 8:30am, Noon, & 7pm
August 19	Men's Prayer Group
August 27	Parish Picnic 2-5pm
Sept. 10	Religious Education Classes Begin
Sept. 16	Fr. Tad Talk at St. Raymond's

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.

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 in 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!

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!

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.



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.



And, speaking of putting **FAITH** into **ACTION**, your Knights of Columbus Council donated \$20,000 to the Tepeyac Pro-Life Pregnancy Center last week! The Council's donation was matched (+\$20,000) by the national Supreme Council for a total of \$40,000! Tepeyac is using the funds to purchase a new 4D Ultrasound machine which will help save precious lives. Praise be to God!

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 19.**

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.

CALLED: A Conference for Young Adults. Bishop Burbidge invites all young adults (ages 19 to 35, single and married) from parishes across the Diocese of Arlington to join him at CALLED: A Conference for Young Adults. Join him on **Saturday, September 23, 2023**, for the annual Mass for Young Adults, an inspirational keynote from Mr. Sam Goodwin, who was trapped in Syria's notoriously brutal prison system, breakout sessions, dinner, prayer, live music, vendors, ministry booths, and plenty of social time! We are excited to offer complimentary childcare for this conference! Invite your friends! The Mass and Conference will run from 2-9:15 p.m. Register now to take advantage of Early Bird Pricing! To register: https://secure4.arlingtondiocese.org/Young_Adult_Conference/Register.aspx

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!

Notice about Evangelization Group. The Bishop's Office has received numerous inquiries regarding the "Misa de Envio" and the door-to-door mission the Renovacion Carismatica Catolica is planning to have throughout the diocese. While the group is in good standing, Bishop Burbidge had not given them permission to evangelize door-to-door, but has exhorted them to collaborate with the local pastor and only evangelize door-to-door with his permission and under his guidance and direction. The group has not contacted Fr. De Celles, and so does not have his permission to work within our parish. Please let the office know if you are approached by this group.

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.

Natural Family Planning. A gift to your marriage. The truth will set you free! cdi.org

The Saint Paul VI Institute is a medical center for the study of human reproduction completely in union with the Church's teaching. Internationally recognized for its outstanding achievements in natural fertility regulation and building a culture of life in women's healthcare through the Creighton Model FertilityCare and NaPro technology. Professional, caring and morally acceptable patient services. Visit popepaulvi.com

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 carry the grief and sorrow of a past abortion. A Day of Prayer & Healing for women who have experienced abortion will be on Sat, Sept 30. English and Spanish. You are not alone. Take the first step. (888) 456-HOPE. Confidentiality always respected.

www.helpafterabortion.org. Men: (703) 841-3833.

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 White Water Rafting Adventure! Thursday, August 17th (8am-11pm)

Email Jeanne by August 7th if you would like a spot on this trip. Cost \$60. Permission slips & details sent out via email & can also be found on youth boards at church entrances.



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: 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.

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!**

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

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 enroll your children (grades K-12) in the 2023-2024 Religious Education (CCD) program!! 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 offer the following sessions:

Sunday 5:30 - 7 p.m. for grades 1-12

Monday 4:45 - 6:15 p.m. for grades K-8 and RCIC class for children in grades 6-8 who have not received their sacraments at the traditional time

Tuesday 4:45 - 6:15 p.m. RCIC class for children in grades 3-5 who have not received their sacraments at the traditional time

Attention HOME SCHOOL and CATHOLIC SCHOOL

parents: if you have a child in a sacramental preparation year (grades 2, 7-8) it is necessary to **register your child** with the Religious Education office.

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.

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 dancertoo2@yahoo.com or James Kolakoski at 703-455-3009 bridgeclub402@gmail.com if you are interested in joining us.

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.

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, and we are in need of a few more women to fill 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.

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

The following column is an excerpt from an essay adapted from an address by AB Charles Chaput at the University of Notre Dame, April 11, 2011.

"The great French scholar Jacques Maritain once wrote that 'the devil hangs like a vampire on the side of history. History moves forward nonetheless, and [it] moves forward with the vampire.' The devil is condemned to work within time. He works in the present to capture our hearts and steal our future. But he also attacks our memory, the narrative of our own identity.

"And he does it for a very good reason. The way we remember history conditions how we think and choose today, in our daily lives. That's why one of the first things we need to do, if we want to 'live as Catholics,' is to remember what being 'Catholic' really means – and we need to learn that lesson in our identity not from the world; not from the tepid and self-satisfied; and not from the enemies of the Church, even when they claim to be Catholic, but from the mind and memory of the Church herself, who speaks through her pastors.

"Our fidelity as Christians is...to God....That means we're involved – intimately – in the life of the world, and that we need to act on what we believe: always with humility, always with charity, and always with prudence – but also *always with courage*. We need to fight for what we believe.

"Virtue *does* matter. Courage and humility, justice and perseverance, *do* have power. Good *does* win...."

FORMED®

Get In-Formed!

Feast of the Transfiguration is on August 6.

Watch A Bible Study on the Luminous Mysteries: The Transfiguration. This is the fourth episode in a series highlighting the luminous mysteries. Dr. Ben Akers and Dr. Elizabeth Klein of the Augustine Institute present.

Listen to Who Do You Say That I Am? Bishop Robert Barron highlights how Jesus fulfilled the four tasks of the Messiah outlined in the Old and New Testaments.

Listen to The Joy of Being a Priest. This audiobook is based on six talks originally presented in the city of Ars, France by Cardinal Christoph Schonborn. Inspired by various saints and holy people including St. John Vianney, the Curé of Ars (Feast Day, Aug 4)

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

Watch for our Constant Contact Updates! If you are not receiving emails from the parish, please contact the parish office at 703-440-0535 or office@straymonds.org to verify your email address.



Angelus Academy

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

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/](https://www.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.

Diocesan Scholarship Fund. Virginia offers a state tax credit for donations to the Diocese of Arlington Scholarship Foundation, which provides scholarships for low-income students. Call Jeanne Combos at 703-841-2764, or email DASF@arlingtondiocese.org, for more details.

Free Hospital Bed: A parishioner has offered an electric Hill-Rom CareAssist hospital bed, complete with its inflatable mattress and pump. He purchased them a couple of years ago, but by the grace of God, he never really needed them. He would like to give them to somebody who could make better use of them - completely free, no charge. If you need or could use such a hospital bed, please contact Mike Kelly at (703) 440-9383 or by email at lodestar@cox.net.

As you are traveling this summer, you can find a Mass near your destination by going to [Masstimes.org](https://www.Masstimes.org).

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.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Sunday Offertory	\$ 16,160.00
Family Assistance	\$ 808.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 681.00
Our Lady of Ransom Catholic School Scholarship Donations	\$ 3,167.00



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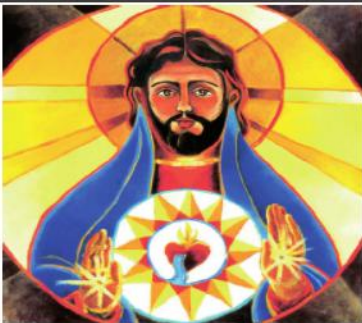
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