

**"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 - Friday:
6:30 am & 8:30 am
Wednesday: 7:00 pm (Sept - May)
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
Dominique Murray, Office Assistant
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

New Sound System. This week, as long promised, we will be installing a new and improved sound system in the church. This will mean adding new speakers and repositioning the old speakers and installing upgraded electronic hardware behind the scenes. The total cost of this will be just under \$45,000. I am confident and praying that the sound will be greatly improved, and that the “dead spots” will be eliminated.

Schedule in the Church. The sound company will begin working in the church **beginning Monday, October 30**, after the 8:30am Mass and continue throughout the day Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. They will **not be working on Wednesday, Nov. 1**, All Saints Day (see below). This, unfortunately, will require us to **alter the use of the church during the day**, except on Wednesday as follows:

On **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday (but not Wednesday)** the **Blessed Sacrament** will be **relocated during the day** from the church to a temporary chapel in one of the basement classrooms (it will be clearly marked).

On **Friday, Exposition/Adoration** (including “nocturnal”) and First Friday afternoon/evening **Confessions** are **cancelled**.

I apologize for any inconvenience, and thank you for your patience.

All Saints/All Souls. This Wednesday, November 1, is All Saints Day, a **Holy Day of Obligation**. It recalls the important dogma that we are all called to go to heaven, and even now are in communion with all the holy souls who have gone there before us, the Saints. This mystery is so important for us to remember and celebrate, that Holy Mother Church requires us all to attend Mass, naming it a mortal sin not to go. Please see the special Mass schedule below. (Note: Wednesday Exposition/Adoration is cancelled).

The next day, Thursday, November 2, is All Souls Day, which is never a day of obligation, but I encourage you to try to attend Mass that day as well, and keep the whole day as one of prayer for the dead—it is a great act of love to pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. We will have an additional 7pm Mass for your convenience.

Of course, all this is preceeded Tuesday, October 31, by Halloween. As you know, I am not a fan of this day, since it not only tends to distract us from and trivialize the meaning of the important days that follow, but it is also used as a feast day by those that serve the devil (including Satanists, witches, etc.). Still, I understand the innocent fun, especially for kids, of dressing up in costumes and going trick-or-treating. So, if it's important to your kids, have some fun, but keep it balanced, and be careful not to let it, in any way, lead you or yours away from Christ, the Saints, or the Holy Souls.

Synod News. By the time you read this (I write on Wednesday) the Synod on Synodality in Rome should be over. According to the Catholic News Agency, the Synod will issue 2 documents. The first, **“Letter to the People of God”** “serves as a compass, pointing the way for the synodal journey...” As an observation, such a document is extremely unusual and of dubious merit; I have no idea what this is about.

The second document is the **“synthesis document.”** According to CNA:

“Vatican spokesman Paolo Ruffini explained at a press conference on Oct. 10 that the synthesis report will be written by ‘the experts’ attending the synod. The task before the synthesis commission involves assiduous listening to the insights from smaller circles — garnering a two-thirds majority vote — and gauging reactions within the general congregation to craft a

document resonating with the assembly’s sentiments.

“However, some argue that if listening remains the priority, the summary document ought to encapsulate all viewpoints. Another concern expressed is perhaps more serious: What if a ‘borderline’ thesis finds its way into a summary document, later serving as a foundation for subsequent synodal deliberations?”

“...Following a break on Oct. 27, the document is reviewed in the hall on Oct. 28, morning and afternoon, prior to approval, before concluding with the Te Deum.”

Meanwhile, as the synod continues to discuss not simply synodality (as we were assured it was supposed to), some participants continued to advocate for changing unchangeable doctrine. This provoked at least two interesting responses that made it into the press:

CNA, Courtney Mares, Oct 18: *“Speaking at a synod press conference on Oct. 18, Archbishop Zbignev Stankevičs of Riga, Latvia, said that the Church teaches that people with same-sex attraction should be accepted with respect...”*

“...true love cannot be separated from truth because if love is separated from truth, it is no longer love,” Stankevičs said. ‘If there is a person living in sin and we tell this person, ‘Everything is all right with you, it’s OK, go ahead,’ we do harm because this person is in danger. When he dies, he will be in great danger,’ he added.

“... Stankevičs...underlined that in response to the issues of women’s participation in the Church and same-sex blessings, ‘we must be faithful to the holy Scriptures, and what the Church for 2,000 years has discovered by interpreting the Scriptures.’”

National Catholic Register, October 18: *“A laywoman received loud applause this week at the Synod on Synodality for a speech that characterized some members’ push for women’s ordination as an attempt to clericalize the laity, several sources have confirmed.*

“Given in response to multiple small-group reports calling for women’s ordination not only to the diaconate, but in some cases also to the priesthood, the laywoman’s Oct. 16 morning address to the assembly also argued that a focus on women’s ordination is a distraction from what women in the Church want and need.

“...In addition to criticizing calls for women’s ordination, the three-minute speech ...underscored the importance of motherhood, both biological and spiritual, for understanding what it means to be a woman from a Catholic perspective, drawing on the importance of Mary, the Mother of God, as the paradigm of womanhood.

“...One participant described the speech as ‘profound and real,’ and contrasted it with a presentation from a proponent of women’s ordination that was described as ‘militant.’ Following the laywoman’s speech, the source saw ‘people smiling ... joy on lots of people’s faces, maybe relief on some others.’

“The synod members who spoke with the Register said that the intervention received loud applause from some of the 365 members of the Synod, which is now entering its third week of proceedings.

“The unidentified laywoman who gave the speech, who is reportedly herself a mother, is one of 54 women voting in the Synod. In a first for the Synod of Bishops, significant numbers of women and other non-bishops are participating fully in the proceedings, accounting for 27% of the Synod assembly.

“... The laywoman’s speech underscores how significant discussions about the possibility of women’s ordination have become at the Synod on Synodality, despite both organizers’ insistence that the assembly’s focus would not be on doctrine and also the Church’s clear and settled teaching on the subject.

Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, October 30th
 6:30 am Family of Susan Wills
 8:30 am Michael Kephart +

Tuesday, October 31st
 6:30 am Family of David Barton
 8:30 am John Spatarro +

Vigil
 7:00 pm Joey Wheeler +

Wednesday, November 1st
All Saints Day
 6:30 am Parishioners
 8:30 am Deceased Legionaries+
 Noon All Souls in Purgatory +
 7:00 pm Larry John Brindza +

Thursday, November 2nd
All Souls Day
 6:30 am All Souls in Purgatory+
 8:30 am All Souls Triduum +
 7:00 pm All Souls in Purgatory+

Friday, November 3rd
 6:30 am Ed Ward +
 8:30 am All Souls Triduum+

Saturday, November 4th
 9:00 am All Souls Triduum +

Vigil Mass
 5:00 pm
 Irene Krosnick +

Sunday, November 5th
 7:00 am
 Tien Pham +
 9:00 am
 Parishioners
 11:00 am
 RE Catechists
 1:00 pm
 Eugene & Pauline
 Tougas +

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

**Additions to our Liturgical Calendar:
 Mass each Wednesday at 7pm**

Sunday morning: Confessions ½ hour before 9 and 11am
 Masses, i.e., **8:30- 9am, 10:30-11am.**

Schedule Changes for Oct. 30- Nov. 4. Due to the installation of our new sound system, a few schedule adjustments are necessary this week. The Mass schedule and Daily Family Rosary will NOT be affected. Adoration is cancelled both Wednesday (11/1) and Friday (11/3), including First Friday Nocturnal Adoration. Confessions are cancelled on Wednesday and Friday. The church will remain open for private prayer, but on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday the Blessed Sacrament will be relocated during the day from the church to a temporary chapel in one of the basement classrooms (it will be clearly marked). Thank you for your patience!

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.

Parish Hall Kitchen Manager Needed. Volunteer needed to organize and maintain the Parish Hall Kitchen on a regular basis. Requirements include discarding any expired food from shelves, fridge and freezer; organization of pots, pans, bowls, serving dishes and drawers and coordinating with our current kitchen supply volunteer buyer. If you are interested in this role, please contact the Parish Office at 703-440-0535.

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.

Michael Aldridge

Neil McNulty

Please pray for the sick of our parish

Glenn Bliss	Gaudencio Dizon	Virginia Cummings
Tom Dietz	Paul Haynes	Joanne Griffith
Michael O'Neill	Dwayne Taylor	Arlene Pietraszko
Cindy Laird	Ted Tolpa	Jean Seiberling
Patricia Lewis	Nena Brennan	Mariel Spiritosanto
Mai Pham	Serrin Foster	Anjane
Jason Saenz	Margaret O'Neill	Balkissoon
Phyllis Zitnik	Tom Swengros	Fr. Stephen Schultz
Patricia Del Buono	Donald Trayer	Shireen Balkissoon
John Florio	Ellen Trayer	Margaret Carter
Debra Henkel	Jacques Courtillet	

Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church

- Oct. 30** Family of Jesus Prayer Group
- Oct. 31** NO Adult Bible Study
- Nov. 1** All Saints Day –Holy Day of Obligation
 Vigil Mass 10/31 at 7pm
 Masses at 6:30am, 8:30am, noon, and 7pm
 No adoration or Confessions
 Offices are closed
- Nov. 2** All Souls Day -Additional Mass at 7pm
- Nov. 2** Bridge Club
- Nov. 2-4** All Souls' Triduum of Mases
- Nov. 3-4** First Friday Adoration Cancelled
- Nov. 4** KofC Blood Drive
- Nov. 4** Men's Prayer Group and Luminaries
- Nov. 4-5** KofC Coats for Kids
- Nov. 5** Donut Sunday
- Nov. 7** Election Day Adoration 9am - 7pm

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 November!** All are invited to attend. **Fr. De Celles asks** that we all offer our daily Rosaries in October, including the Family Rosary in the church, for the intention that Mary intercede for and guide and protect the Church during the "Synod on Synodality."

ALL SOULS DAY TRIDUUM: St. Raymond's will again be offering a Triduum of Masses for All Souls. The Masses will be said on Nov. 2nd, Nov. 3rd and Nov. 4th at 8:30 am. To have your departed loved ones remembered in these Masses, please complete one of the All Souls envelopes in the narthex and place it in the collection basket today or bring it to the parish office by .

Adoration for Election Day, November 7. Please remember to vote and to pray for God's will in this year's elections. On Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2023 we will have Exposition and Adoration after the 8:30 Mass and conclude with Benediction at 7 pm. Please join us! Visit our website to sign up for an hour or stop by anytime during the day.

REMINDER– Time Changes Nov. 5th: Daylight Savings Time ends next weekend! Please remember to set your clocks back one hour Saturday night.



MEN: ARE YOU READY TO ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE?

Our communities and our Parish need strong Catholic men to answer the call to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others, and defend values in a busy, ever-changing and tumultuous world. For over 100 years, the Knights of Columbus have done exactly that, standing up for the Church, serving the least among us, and strengthening our parishes and our families. **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 or want to learn more about the many benefits of being a Knight! Don't delay ... **BECOME A KNIGHT!**



Upcoming Events:

11/4 Blood Drive – St. Raymond's Parish Hall
 11/4-5 Coats for Kids donations/collections (after Masses)
 11/9 Officer Meeting, 7 PM
 11/13 Exemplification and Membership Meeting, 7:30 pm
 11/24 Christmas Tree Delivery/ Sales Commence

"Keep Christ in Christmas" Christmas Cards – This weekend, October 28/29 the Knights of Columbus will be offering religious Christmas cards in the Narthex after all the Masses.

Men's Prayer Group. All men of the parish are invited to gather on the first and third Saturdays of the month to share prayers & breakfast and learn our faith with one another. The Men's Prayer Group welcomes you. We meet in the parish hall at 7:30 am. Call Dave at 703 966 5327 for more info. **Our next meeting is on November 4.**

November 4 Blood Drive. The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a blood drive on behalf of Inova Blood Donor Services on Saturday, November 4th here in the St. Raymond's parish hall from 7 am to noon. You may sign up online at www.inovabloodsaves.org or in the narthex after all Masses this weekend. If you have any questions or difficulty signing up, please contact Mark Maslyn of our parish at 202-679-3293 or by email at: mam7253@msn.com.

Coats for Kids! The Knights of Columbus will be collecting new Coats for Kids after all Masses Nov. 4-5. All new coats will be donated to local charities. Monetary donations will also be accepted and will be used to purchase new coats.

Book Club: The parish Book Club next meets on **Thursday, November 9**, at 10:00 AM in the St Raymond Library to discuss "St Mary Magdalene, Prophetess of Eucharistic Love, by Fr Sean Davidson. **NOTE** that we are meeting on a Thursday because Veterans Day, a federal holiday, is celebrated on Friday, November 10. New members are welcome. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Mault, bookclub@straymonds.org.

Wreaths Across America Sponsorship Drive. American Heritage Girls will be collecting cash donations after all of the Masses Veterans' Day weekend (Nov. 11-12) to sponsor wreaths to be laid at the US Soldiers & Airmen's Home National Cemetery in Washington, DC on December 16. If you would prefer to donate electronically, please visit our troop's sponsorship site at <https://tinyurl.com/VA0683WAA>. We thank you for your support!

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



Early voting is underway!
 Every seat in the Virginia Assembly is on the ballot!
Get informed and get in line to Vote Pro-Life.
VoteValuesVA.com

October is Respect Life Month!
How will you bear witness to the sanctity of life?

40 DAYS FOR LIFE *Help save lives by praying for an end to abortion.*
 THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF ABORTION.

Peaceful. Prayerful. Public witness for the purpose of ending abortion. Please join us outside the Falls Church Women's 'Healthcare' (abortion) Clinic. Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired over a million volunteers and saved thousands of lives. We witness next weekend! Thank you to all who have already signed up in the narthex! Questions? Visit 40daysforlife.com or contact Liz at hildebrandseven@gmail.com.

Save the date: On Wednesday November 8 at 7 pm, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for our children who have predeceased us. Kara Palladino, founder of A Mom's Peace, will be with us to answer any questions you may have. All are welcome.

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.

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.

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

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.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (2271) states: Since the 1st c. the Church has affirmed the moral evil of every procured abortion. This teaching has not changed and remains unchangeable. Direct abortion, that is to say, abortion willed either as an end or a means, is gravely contrary to the moral law. From earliest times, Christians sharply distinguished themselves from surrounding pagan cultures by rejecting abortion and infanticide." **Do we do so today??**

St. Raymond's Youth Apostolate

<https://straymonds.org/ministries-and-groups/youth-apostolate/>

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

Youth Group & CCD October 29th:

4-5:30pm Jr. High Youth Group (pizza served)

5:30-7pm 7-12th Grade CCD

7-8:30pm High School Youth Group (snacks served)

Snack Donations Are you able to contribute some snacks for our high school youth group to enjoy on Sunday evenings? It can be as simple as a few bags of chips or cookies. If you are able to help, please sign up here: <https://bit.ly/feedtheteens>

Friday, Nov. 3rd: 6:30am Mass & Breakfast

All 7-12th graders: Join us Friday mornings for Mass followed by breakfast with Fr. Horkan & Fr. Bergida in the parish hall. RSVP <https://bit.ly/FRIDAYRSVP> by Wed. if you need a ride!

Breakfast Donations Are you able to contribute a baked good or fruit for our Friday morning Mass & breakfast group? You can drop it off on Thursday, so you don't even have to get up early! Sign up at <https://bit.ly/FriBfast>

More info on all of the Youth Apostolate activities below can be found online at <https://bit.ly/PERMISSIONSLIPS>



Pie Sale Fundraiser for Youth Apostolate

Would you, your family, friends, and/or neighbors enjoy a fresh, delicious homemade pie this Thanksgiving? Back by popular demand, our youth apostolate will be hand making about 70 apple pies & 70 pumpkin pies ready for pick-up Nov.18-19, just in time for Thanksgiving! All proceeds will support our Youth Apostolate—from our weekly meeting supplies, pizza & snacks to trips like WorkCamp & Steubenville. **Pre-Orders are due November 12th, unless we sell out sooner!** Forms for pre-order can be found on youth bulletin boards & in this week's bulletin insert. Thank you, in advance, for supporting our parish youth!

Saturday, November 4th (10:15am-1:15pm)

40 Days for Life Witness & Chick-Fil-A Outing

All 7-12th graders are invited to join us in praying outside the abortion clinic in Falls Church to change hearts and heal the broken hearted. Bring your Rosary and bring a friend. We will car pool & the Youth Apostolate will pay for milkshakes at Chick-Fil-A afterwards. *Permissions slips, due Wednesday 11/1.*

Saturday, Nov. 11: High School Swing Dance (10am-12pm) at

Angelus Academy Mark the date & tell your friends! Students from Christendom College's swing dance club will be back to teach us some moves! Young men are particularly encouraged to come!

Monday, Nov. 13: St. Lucy's Food Pantry Warehouse 2-6pm (HS

Service) Looking for a great service opportunity? We will be driving out to St. Lucy's Food Pantry in Manassas to help organize new food donations onto the shelves in the warehouse to be shipped to food pantries across the county. *Permission slips due Wed. 11/11!*

Jeanne Sause

Director of the Youth Apostolate (Grades 7-12)

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

Email Jeanne to be added to the weekly email list for the most updated info on Youth Apostolate news & upcoming events!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

PARENTS: THERE WILL BE CCD class on Tuesday 10/31

MASS ATTENDANCE CARDS: Parents of students in grades 2, 7 and 8 (Catholic school, homeschool and CCD) are reminded that your child should be submitting a **Mass attendance card** (blue for grade 2 and red/pink for grades 7 & 8) every time they attend **weekend Mass** (Saturday vigil / Sunday Masses). They should write their first and last name as well as the date and time of the Mass they attend and place it in the collection basket!

If your child attends Mass at a parish other than St. Raymond's, please pick up a bulletin from that parish and ask a priest or deacon to sign the bulletin. Your child should write their name on the bulletin and then drop it off in the RE office when they come to CCD class.

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

Diocesan High School Placement Test, Dec. 2nd. 8th grade students attending public schools or non-Catholic private schools, who are interested in attending Catholic High Schools in the Diocese of Arlington, need to take the High School Placement Test (HSPT). The test will be on Saturday, December 2, 2023 8:30am-12pm (Snow Date - December 9, 2023) at each of the Diocesan High Schools. Students must register online on the high school's website.

Mothers' Group: Do your young children need a bit more excitement? Are you looking for Catholic friendship with fellow mothers? Come to the moms' meet-up on Wednesday mornings! We alternate between meeting at our church and parks. Email Michelle for more information at mlcastry@gmail.com.

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.

Legion of Mary: Do you want to develop a closer relationship with our Mother Mary and her Son and our Savior, Jesus Christ? The Legion of Mary weekly meeting is held on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm in the Library. 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.

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 November 4**. All are welcome.

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.

Church Persecuted

The cancel culture has been the subject of multiple discussions over the past years as it pertains not only to our schools, but also businesses and other entities. Dr. Dan Guernsey, now the director of the M.Ed. in Catholic educational leadership at Ave Maria University, wrote an article in *The Catholic Thing* over two years ago that addresses the problem and provides for a solution. It is worth looking at today in more detail.

The “cancel culture” is “a type of religion” which infects many of our institutions as well as other aspects of our lives. Though it “surrounds us and now threatens to infect Catholic schools, colleges, and homeschooling,” there are means that we can take to prevent it from taking over our education system.

“Authentic Catholic education does not cancel culture; it elevates it, redeems, and transmits culture. It seeks out and celebrates truth, beauty, and goodness, wherever they are found – and if they are missing, Catholic education points that out as well. . . .

“The Catholic pursuit of truth, beauty, and goodness and the Catholic understanding of human dignity and the common good provide a framework for dealing with perennial challenges facing humanity, including the current cultural crisis concerning race and gender.”

(Continued next week)

The entire article can be found at: www.TheCatholicThing.org/2021/05/19/the-remedy-for-canceling-and-division-catholic-education/.

FORMED®

Get In-Formed!



Brother Francis - All Souls Day

In this episode of Brother Francis, kids can learn about All Souls Day and how we take time to remember those who have passed away.

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 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/plying/

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 offers Catholic School tuition assistance for all parish families. The scholarship is renewable every year and is subject to minimal qualification terms. Additional financial aid is available 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).

FAITH DIRECT: eGiving helps you provide regular support to St. Raymond’s, even when you are out of town. 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 OCTOBER 2023

Offertory	\$ 56,180.00
Family Assistance	\$ 2,760.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 6,121.00
Our Lady of Ransom Catholic	
School Scholarship Donations	\$ 2,267.00
World Missions	\$ 1,298.00

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION

Sunday Offertory	\$ 10,653.00
Family Assistance	\$ 597.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 1,608.00
Our Lady of Ransom Catholic	
School Scholarship Donations	\$ 430.00
World Missions	\$ 2,239.00



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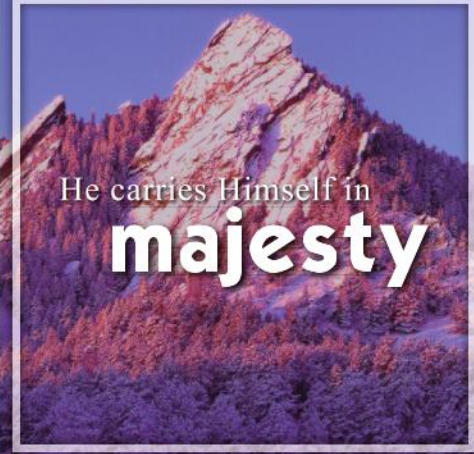


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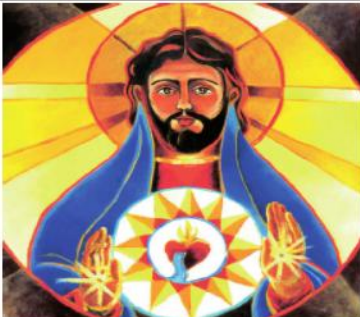


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