



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

Elections. “If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town.” [Mt. 10:14]. Virginians, especially parents, children, and unborn babies, suffered a devastating loss last Tuesday. And there were other big losses around the country, particularly in Ohio. But the Lord reminds us not to dally and fret over our “losses” in proclaiming the Gospel. We get up, shake off the loss, and go on to the next task of proclaiming the Gospel.

We always need to remember that we—individually, as a parish, or as the Church—are not the savior: that job belongs to Jesus alone. He is King of Kings and has already won the war, though the skirmishes with the Devil continue until He comes again in glory. Our job is to proclaim the Gospel as best we can, live a holy life, love God and our neighbor, and hold tightly to Jesus, the Trinity, Mary, and all the saints and angels. And to our Catholic faith, hope and charity. Discouragement does not come from God, but from our weakness or the Devil. Jesus is our hope.

So... let us pray for one another, for our fellow Virginians, and the folks around the country, especially Ohio, particularly parents, children and the unborn. And, holding on to hope in Christ, get back to work for Him.

Pray for the Dead. Remember that the whole month of November is dedicated to praying for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. So I encourage you to do so, especially by praying the Rosary, offering Holy Hours, or attending an extra Mass or two during the weekdays. Or at least adding to your regular prayers, the simple prayer, “Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And may perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.”

Needed: Plant Manager. We have been searching for a new plant manager since April. Parishioner Anthony Hansen has filled in on a part-time interim basis, working with Mary Butler in the office. (Thanks to both of them). Anthony has done an excellent job, but he does not want to take this on permanently.

Ideally, a plant manager would have experience in facilities management, or perhaps construction. But I think the most important thing I’m looking for is someone who is a good communicator, organized and can work with and manage people, including staff and vendors. They should be comfortable working around machinery and maintenance, but don’t need to be expert. They need to be able manage and coordinate, not necessarily to lift and hammer.

Ideally, the position would be **full-time**, but I’ve concluded that a **part-time** person can handle this if we delegate some routine tasks to subordinates and vendors. The position would require being on-call for emergencies, but this would involve mainly, again, hands-on coordination of staff and vendors.

Finally, ideally, I’d like to fill this position with a parishioner, or at least a Catholic who would feel comfortable working with our priests, staff, and parishioners.

This is a very important position in our parish, and I need to fill it soon. I ask your prayers that I can do so. If you or someone you know is interested in this position, please contact Mary Butler in the office.

Synodality: The Way Forward to Failure? Last week I read this interview in *ultraliberal America* Magazine given by Cardinal Pierre, the Pope’s Nuncio to the US. I was confused by some of his comments, and contemplated how best to respond. Then I read this excellent commentary at *The Pillar*, by Brendan Hodge:

“In an interview last week, Cardinal Christophe Pierre ...focused on a 2007 meeting of South and Latin America’s bishops in the city of Aparecida, Brazil.... There, ‘the bishops developed a kind of dynamic of working together and looking for solutions together, to evangelize better, which is what the **synod [on synodality]** is all about. Nothing else: Better evangelization....

“That 2007 Aparecida conference produced a document which the future Pope Francis helped to draft. And for his part, Pierre told America that a better understanding of Aparecida, its document, and its effect in the Church across South and Central American could help the U.S. bishops to address declining rates of faith in their country.

“But if the Aparecida approach is the model — it seems worth asking whether it’s worked....[H]as a phase change in evangelization resulted in a Church more alive, more evangelical, and more fruitful in South and Central America than in the United States?

“...The Vatican publishes an annual statistical report called the *Annuario statisticum ecclesiae*.... The Vatican data shows very stable levels of Catholic affiliation ...for Central and South America as a whole from 1980 to 2019...In the same time period, the United States also shows a very stable...

“But those figures don’t tell the whole story.... [Other] data suggests a significant and continuing decline in Catholic practice, both in the U.S. and throughout Central and South America.

“....Since the 2007 Aparecida conference, the number of **baptisms** per thousand Catholics has dropped another 33% in Central and South America, while in the US the number has declined by 38%....Brazil, where the Aparecida conference actually took place, has seen its number of baptisms per thousand Catholics drop to levels below that of the U.S., with just seven baptisms per thousand Catholics in 2019 as compared to 8.9 in the US.

“In 2019 the U.S. and Mexico were tied, with 1.8 **marriages** per thousand Catholics. For Central and South America as a whole, the number was 1.2 in that year. In Argentina it was only 0.8.

“...While the Catholic Church considers baptized Catholics to remain Catholic throughout their lives, ... [survey data from the World Values Survey] focus on **self-identification**, asking respondents, ‘Do you belong to a religion or religious denomination? If yes, which one?’

“...The U.S. and Mexico both show stable to upward trends over the five waves of the survey, from 1995 to 2022. Argentina is somewhat down, from 76% in the 1995-1998 wave, to 69% in the 2017-2022 one. Brazil shows the most dramatic change. In the 1995 to 1998 wave of the survey, 70% of respondents in Brazil described themselves as Catholic. In the most recent wave, only 46% described themselves as Catholic.

“...In the most recent wave, the highest rate among Catholics in the four countries examined was in Mexico, where 47% of Catholics said they went to **Mass at least once a week**. The lowest rate was in Argentina, where only 19% of Catholic respondents reported going to Mass at least once a week. The U.S. fell in the middle with 35% of respondents saying they went to mass at least weekly...The percentage of total Brazilian respondents who said they went to Mass weekly dropped from 28% in 2007 ...to 21% in the most recent wave of the survey....

“Whatever effects the evangelization developed through the synodal process of Aparecida may have had, it does not seem to have resulted in the countries of Central and South America being more successful at retaining members than is the Church in the U.S.”

MASS INTENTIONS

<u>Monday, November 13th</u> 6:30 am Pauline Drouillard + 8:30 am Freddie L. Kemp +	<u>Saturday, November 18th</u> 9:00 am Thomas M. Gigliotti +
<u>Tuesday, November 14th</u> 6:30 am Carmen Schultz 8:30 am Sofi Rae Hills	<u>Vigil Mass</u> 5:00 pm Fr. Bergida Gene Pearce +
<u>Wednesday, November 15th</u> 6:30 am Mercedes Sandoval-Chavez + 8:30 am Joseph Healy, Jr. 7:00 pm Celebrant's Intentions	<u>Sunday, November 19th</u> 7:00 am Fr. Bergida Catherine Severin + 9:00 am Fr. Horkan Parishioners 11:00 am Fr. Rippy Jim Gaston +
<u>Thursday, November 16th</u> 6:30 am James Ryan + 8:30 am Pauline Drouillard +	1:00 pm Fr. De Celles Dorothy Gloninger +
<u>Friday, November 17th</u> 6:30 am Nadja Teschner + 8:30 am Souls in Purgatory Most in Need	

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.

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 **12:00 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!

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.

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.

Save the Date: Advent Series! Mark your calendars for the three Fridays during Advent. Father Bergida will lead a special Holy Hour at **7pm on December 8, 15, and 22** with a talk on the topic, "The Mystery of the Church in the Incarnation and Nativity," which will discuss the relationship of the Church to Mary and her Son. Adoration will be extended until 8pm each Friday during Advent. Stay tuned for more information about other Advent events very soon!

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 –Safely returned home!**
 Neil McNulty**

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 Paul Haynes Dwayne Taylor Ted Tolpa Nena Brennan Serrin Foster Margaret O'Neill Tom Swengros Donald Trayer	Ellen Trayer Jacques Courtillet Virginia Cummings Arlene Pietraszko Jean Seiberling Mariel Spiritosanto Margaret Carter Thomas Crean
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Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church

Nov. 12	Youth Apostolate Pie Orders Due!
Nov. 13	Family of Jesus Prayer Group at 3pm
Nov. 14	Adult Bible Study
Nov. 15	Adoration 9am - 7pm
Nov. 15	Legion of Mary
Nov. 16	Bridge Club
Nov. 17	Adoration 9am - 3pm
Nov. 18	Men's Prayer Group
Nov. 20-21	No CCD Classes
Nov. 23	Thanksgiving Day
	One Mass at 10am, Parish Offices Closed
Nov. 24	One Mass at 8:30, Parish Offices are closed
Nov. 26	NO CCD Classes or Youth Groups

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!

Gift Shop Sale: Stop by our table in the narthex after Masses next weekend, November 18-19. We carry Advent items, crucifixes, bibles, rosaries, jewelry and more. Credit cards, checks, and cash are welcomed. We are also available by appointment. Submit your request at giftshop@StRaymonds.org or call 703-440-0535.

Youth Apostolate Pie Sales - Please support our youth at Saint Raymond's by pre-ordering apple or pumpkin pies by this weekend (deadline November 12). To order, please visit our website at www.straymonds.org/pre-order-your-pies-now/. Proceeds support important events like WorkCamp and the Steubenville Youth Conference.

JOIN the CHOIR at St. Raymond's: Do you want to sing with the choir for Advent and Christmas? Singers who have a pleasant voice and sing in pitch are welcome. We practice on Tuesdays from 7:00 to 8:30 pm and sing at 11:00 am Mass on Sundays with a warm-up at 10. The choir also provides music for Easter, Christmas and other Holy Days. Contact Elisabeth Turco at music@straymonds.org or call 703-506-4644.



NOW ... MORE THAN EVER ... our communities, our Parish, and our families 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. **DON'T DELAY! 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:

11/13	Council Rosary in the Library, 7 pm
11/13	Exemplification and Meeting, 7:30 pm
11/20	Thanksgiving Basket Distribution
11/24 - 12/17	Christmas Tree Sale
12/2	Breakfast with Santa

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 18**

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 December 2**. All are welcome.

Opening of the Golden Jubilee Celebration. Please join us on Sunday, November 26 at 5 pm, the Solemnity of Jesus Christ, the King of the Universe, at St. Michael Catholic Church in Annandale for the opening of the Golden Jubilee celebration of the Diocese of Arlington. There will be Solemn Vespers with Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Arlington, will be the celebrant and homilist. A reception will follow in the school gym. Please RSVP to events@arlingtondiocese.org

Inclement Weather Policy

In the event of Weather or Emergency closings, St. Raymond's Parish NO LONGER follows Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) decisions.

In the event of Weather or other Emergency situations, notice of cancellations or closings of parish events and/or facilities will be posted to the parish website. If possible/practical the parish will also send out an email to all parishioners notifying them of the closing/cancellations.

There are only TWO exceptions to any closing decisions we make and issue:

- 1) Regularly scheduled Masses and Confession will NEVER be cancelled due to inclement Weather.**
- 2) Meetings of very small groups that receive the pastor's personal permission, in which case members will be notified of the exception personally by their group leader.

SAINT RAYMOND'S RESPECTS LIFE

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

THANK YOU to all who joined us on the sidewalk in front of the Falls Church 'Healthcare' Center. Did you know that in 2021 1,938 abortions were committed there? Your peaceful prayerful presence brought the Light of Christ to a place shackled in so much darkness. God bless you.

Many may remember (but most will not) that early on Sunday morning, November 14, 2010, a newborn baby girl was discovered in a gym bag in our parish parking lot. By the grace of God, Sofi Rae (for Raymond) was healthy and adopted by a loving Christian family. She is now turning 13! The 8:30 Mass on Nov 14 will be offered for her. Thank you for your prayers of thanksgiving for Sofi's life. Please also keep her birth mom in your prayers as we hope she got the help she needed in her time of crisis.

MaRiH Pregnancy Care Center: We proudly partner with MaRiH as they serve local expectant mothers in need. Knowing each child has an unrevealed holy purpose, MaRiH volunteers strive to see the face of God in the mothers and families they help. **Thank you, dear friends at Saint Raymond's, for generously supporting us in this work of mercy.** Donations welcome in the narthex near the elevator. marih.org.



Mark your calendar! The National March for Life will take place on Friday January 21, 2024. Stay tuned for details and parish bus reservations.

Please plan to attend the 2024 Pro-Life Day on February 21 in Richmond. For more information and to register, go to vaprolifeday.org.

Has the sorrow of miscarriage or still birth touched your life? **A Mom's Peace**, offers discreet support to families with bereavement, burial and remembrance assistance. Visit amomspeace.org.

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.

What can be said to refute the fallacy that a fetus is just a clump of cells or a 'potential' human being? Well, there's simply no such thing as a potential human being. That's a fabricated term. You are either human or you are not. 'Humanness' does not come in increments. The unborn are fully human, genetically unique members of the human species. Smaller, weaker, less developed... yes. Less human ... no. Thou shalt not kill applies.

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 November 12th:

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

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

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

Sunday, November 12: High School Q&A with Fr. De Celles 5:30-7pm (Parish Hall)

Fr. De Celles will be doing Q&A in place of High School CCD class. ALL high school age youth are encouraged to come, whether you are in CCD or not.

November 19: BOTH YOUTH GROUPS at 4pm!

4-5:30pm High School & Jr. High Youth Group: Adoration

Join us for a special holy hour for 7-12th graders! Exposition with a reflection by Fr. Bergida, followed by time for silent prayer (bring a journal, pen, rosary, and Bible or spiritual reading) and Benediction. Pizza will be served in the hall afterwards. *Parents/families are encouraged to stay for the holy hour as well.*

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

Snack Donations Are you able to contribute a snack for our high school youth group? Sign up at <https://bit.ly/feedtheteens>

Friday Nov. 17th: 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. If you RSVP at <https://bit.ly/FRIDAYRSVP> by Wed. we can coordinate our volunteers to drive you to school by 8am! We may also be able to pick you up for Mass if you give us enough notice. If not, you can show up for Mass and have your parent drive you to school after breakfast Either way, RSVPs help!

Help Make 140+ Pies!

We have a HUGE task ahead of us! Please sign up to help ASAP!

Jr. High Pie Assembly: Thursday Nov. 16th from 6-8:30pm

High School Pie Assembly: Friday Nov. 17 from 6-9pm

We need *at least* 10 youth AND 3 compliant adults to help out each evening. Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/helpmakepie>

Help Hand Out Pies After Masses Next Weekend 11/18-19

At least 2 youth (grades 7-12) and 1 compliant adult are needed to help pass out pies and sell any extra that we may have after each Mass next weekend. Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/passthepie>

Saturday, Nov. 18: Father-Son Axe Throwing Competition!

10:30am-2:15pm (Will drive together to Autobahn in Sterling)

Permission slip, waiver, cost & more information can be found at <https://bit.ly/PERMISSIONSLIPS> *Permission slips are due TODAY 11/12.*

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

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

THIS week - November 12, 13 and 14 we are collecting baby items for the MaRiH pregnancy care center in Alexandria. There is great need for the following items:

Diapers: size newborn - size 6

Baby Wipes

Similac Advance Formula

Fall/Winter clothing - especially size 12-18 months and 2T

Car seats

Baby blankets

Please drop off your items at the Religious Education Office in the Parish Hall.

Parents please note: November 20, 21 and 26: Thanksgiving Holiday - there WILL BE NO CCD classes!

Attention parents of high school seniors:

The Cardinal Newman Society announces its annual \$5,000 college scholarship writing contest for high school seniors - to help with the cost of attending a faithful Catholic college recognized in The Newman Guide in the fall of 2024.

Visit <https://cardinalnewmansociety.org/the-newman-guide/essay-scholarship-contest/> for details.

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.

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.

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, **now at 3:00 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 not only pertains to our schools, but also businesses and government 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 a solution. www.TheCatholicThing.org/2021/05/19/the-remedy-for-canceling-and-division-catholic-education/. (Excerpts of this essay continue from last week.)

“There are key things that Catholic educators should – and should not – do to address hot-button topics like race, gender, and equity. The following is a partial list of some central things that can help Catholic educators [and others in business and in the home] avoid the pitfalls of ideology and division:

- Embrace a Catholic worldview throughout the institution, where faith and culture enrich and speak to each other.
- Bring to the table Catholic values of faith, forgiveness, mercy, and justice, and shun sins of calumny, detraction, rash judgment, and pride.
- Relate discussions to a Catholic understanding of the human person through a clear and convincing Christian anthropology, which affirms our creation by God as male or female and the union of our bodies and spirits, as well as our common humanity and destiny.
- Teach students to analyze the morality of human acts (including separating the sin and the sinner), properly attribute degrees of culpability based on individual awareness and freedom, ascribe sin (in the proper sense) to individuals not groups [...]
- Avoid compounding racial tension, promoting tribalism and ‘if you’re not for us you’re against us’ thinking.
- Teach the use of logic and reason to uncover objective truth especially when emotion and relativism run hot.
- Promote dialogue not for its own sake but as a means of pursuing truth and a means for promoting unity, which can only be found in the truth of things....
- Carefully select music, art, poetry, literature, movies....
- Always lead with Jesus, who is ‘both model and means’ for students in whom they will find ‘the inexhaustible source of personal and communal perfection.’”

Scholarships to Catholic Schools are still available!

Please send requests for tuition assistance or homeschool reimbursement to Fr. De Celles, or 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 continue to support St. Raymond’s throughout the year. You can sign up from your computer, smartphone or tablet and set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift. Recurring gifts sustain our parish throughout the year. You’ll provide us with consistent support, even if you’re away on a Sunday, so the programs, services, and ministries that mean so much to our community will never miss a beat. Sign up today by visiting faith.direct/VA64. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family. God bless you.



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

FORMED®

Get In-Formed!

Listen to *Holiness is Always in Season*. This audiobook of Pope Benedict XVI’s work reminds all the faithful of their call to holiness. He encourages us to be inspired by the saints and to imitate their courageous and virtuous examples of holy living.

Read *History of the Catholic Church: From the Apostolic Age to the Third Millennium* via ePub or your Kindle. Historian James Hitchcock offers an honest, comprehensive telling of our Church history and the Church’s constant role in leading souls to salvation through Christ.

Watch *Catholic Commentary on The Chosen*. Dr. Michael Barber and Dr. Scott Hefelfinger discuss individual episodes of the incredibly popular series, The Chosen, which depicts the life of Christ. Seasons of the series also available on Formed. content to enjoy offline when on the go!

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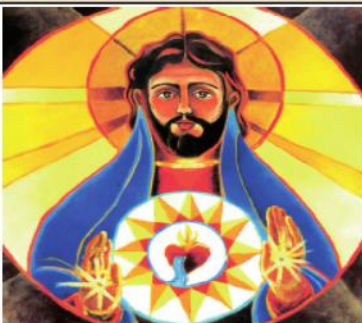
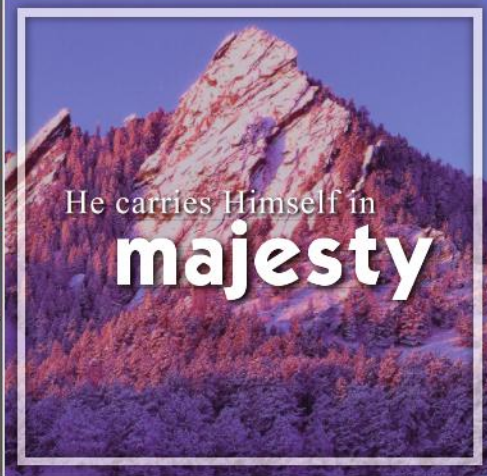
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