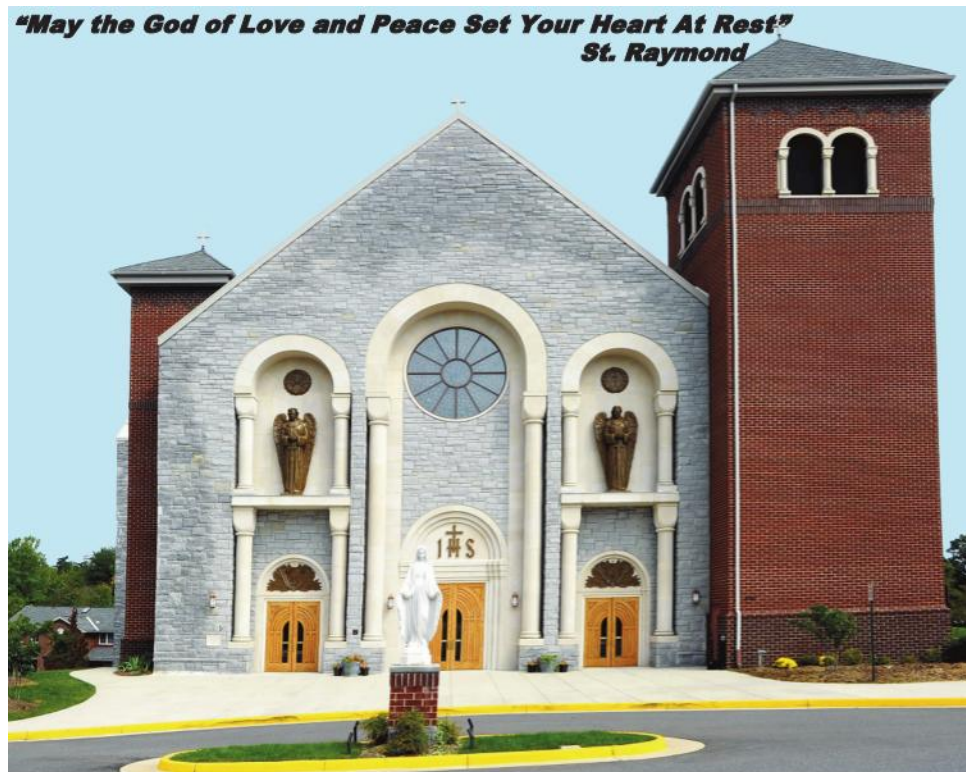


**"May the God of Love and Peace Set Your Heart At Rest"  
St. Raymond**



## **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 (Latin-  
English), 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](http://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  
Michael Thompson, Plant Manager  
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

### **Email**

Church: [Office@straymonds.org](mailto:Office@straymonds.org)  
Rel. Ed.: [ReligiousEducation@straymonds.org](mailto:ReligiousEducation@straymonds.org)  
Choir: [Music@straymonds.org](mailto: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 - 7:00 pm (during Exposition)

#### **Saturday Morning**

8:00 - 9:00 am

#### **Saturday Afternoon**

3:30 - 5:00 pm

### **EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Wednesday from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm

Friday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

First Fridays 9:00 am Friday - 9:00 Saturday (Overnight)

**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

**Asian Fusion: Absolutely Fantastic.** Well, if you missed the Asian Fusion Dinner last Saturday evening you missed a very exceptional evening. The food was great and copious, representing the flavors of the various Asian cultures represented in the parish, especially Filipino (I won't list them all, lest I leave someone out inadvertently). And the place was packed with a sold out (beforehand) crowd of over 200, including lots of folks who don't normally come to our parish dinners. Thanks to Knights of Columbus and their spouses for organizing things, especially Genevieve and Doug Maines. And thanks to all the cooks and bakers who prepared the many delicious foods. I can't tell you how pleased I was and how much I personally enjoyed myself.

**My Perspective: "Multiculturalism."** I come from San Antonio, where I grew up with a unique and strong mix of cultures, mainly generic American, Texan, and Mexican, but with heavy doses of Military, Baptist, Catholic, Bavarian and Polish cultures mixed in. So I love to experience different cultures. But I also love my own "culture"—which is a blend of all of the above, sort of, along with the remnants of my ancestral French-Canadian culture. Moving to Northern Virginia in 1991 that Generic-American/Texan/Mexican/French-Canadian culture was expanded quite a bit with all the various new cultures that I came into contact with in parishes. And, given my background, I have come to enjoy and respect the many positive aspects of these cultures, and deeply appreciate the contribution they make to our broader American culture.

Friends, I look at my own culture this way: first, I'm Catholic, and then I'm American, and then I'm that person with the wide-ranging background of cultures I've grown up in.

I think it's a great and essential thing that we have all the cultures we have, and the heritage they represent. **They make us who we are.**

But **first, we need to be Catholic**—with a culture centered on Christ and His Church. And **then, we need to be American**, with a culture which I perceive as being founded on British culture, with its emphasis on natural rights and duties, self-control and self-governance, moderation, the work-ethic, law-abiding citizenship, and peaceful disagreement. And recognizing that this culture has been heavily influenced by aspects of the various European cultures, and to a lesser but real extent by the various ethnic cultures of the citizenry, effected by the many different waves of immigration, forced (sadly) or unforced.

Given that, over the last few decades I've come to recognize what I consider to be a huge problem with what has become known as "multiculturalism." I know this term means many different things to different people. But as a representative of a powerful Catholic institution said at a meeting last year, the **institutional meaning** is this: **multi-culturalism means "non-white."**

I find that perspective repugnant, not to mention un-American and un-Catholic. It is a form of soft bigotry, unjustly prejudicial against both "whites" and "nonwhites," and ultimately leads to intercultural hatred, segregation, and even violence.

My children in Christ, I have never wanted this to infect our parish family. We are brothers and sisters in Christ, and share a common patriotic union in being one nation under God. Each of us personally act, think and look uniquely different from each other; our group backgrounds, including our cultures, are also different. But we are able to live and love together because we are *all human beings created in the image of God*, and that is what makes us most special and *most united*. And in that context, we are Catholics, baptized into the one life of Jesus. The rest—the differences—are important, but way secondary.

Considering all this, I have always tried to avoid the divisive notion of "multiculturalism." So we pray the liturgy

emphasizing our common Catholic traditions, recognizing these are influenced by the European, Roman and Jewish roots of the Church. We speak English because that is the common language of our country, and Latin because that is the common language of our Church.

But we also recognize and need to appreciate the cultures we bring to the table. Sometimes I say "y'all," "howdy" or "bueno," and when I'm tired, my Tex-Mex drawl/pronunciation comes out. And I love the beef of Texas and the tamales of San Antonio. But it's good to see all the different skin tones, to hear all the different accents, to taste all the delicious foods, and learn about the traditions, as well as the many struggles, of all the many different cultures you all bring to our parish.

In short:

"...Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ...that there be no divisions among you..." [1 Cor 1:10].

"There is no longer Jew or Greek...for all of you are one in Christ Jesus" [Gal 3:28].

"Holy Father, protect them ...so that they may be one, as we are one" [John 17: 11].

**Virginia March for Life.** We're taking a bus down to Richmond on Wednesday, February 21. See details below under "SAINT RAYMOND'S RESPECTS LIFE." I hope to see you in Richmond!

**Good for CUA Across the River!** From *The Daily Signal*, Jan. 30:

*"Catholic University ...has terminated the contract of the professor who invited a self-declared 'abortion doula' to speak to students about coaching women through abortions and 'pregnant men' through a 'seahorse birth.'*

*"Catholic University President Peter Kilpatrick announced to students on Jan. 30 that ...'In our rigorous pursuit of truth and justice, we engage at times with arguments or ideologies contrary to reason or to the Gospel...But we do so fully confident in the clarity given by the combined lights of reason and faith, and we commit to never advocate for sin or to give moral equivalence to error....'*

*"Here at Catholic University, we have the unique opportunity and common blessing to pursue truth, to grow in faith, and to exercise charity," he added. 'Our studies aim at producing wisdom, which includes excellence in living and sharing the truth with others. May our common study help us to understand life, to love goodness, and to promote and protect the dignity of the human person.'*

*"Felipe Avila, 20 [a student at the lecture], told The Daily Signal ...'The fundamental point is to understand human development from conception to natural death, right? And they brought in someone who counsels women to terminate life.'*

*"Psychology lecturer Melissa Goldberg ....invited the doula, Rachel Carboneau, to address her class, titled Psychology 379: Lifespan Development. The term doula usually refers to a professional who provides physical and emotional support to a woman before, during, and shortly after childbirth. ...Carboneau identified herself to the class as an 'abortion doula' ... [She is] The founder and CEO of the LGBTQ-aligned doula company Family Ways ...*

*"...Carboneau began 'using terms like birthing persons [and] pregnant person.' The lecturer was 'very strategic in avoiding the word 'woman'...' 'We work with trans clients,' Carboneau told students...When discussing the stigma of 'pregnant men,' Carboneau urged students to 'normalize' the discussion of women who identify as men giving birth."*

**Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles**

**MASS INTENTIONS**

<b><u>Monday, February 5th</u></b> 6:30 am Rita Kelliher + 8:30 am Jose Tapia +	<b><u>Saturday, February 10th</u></b> 9:00 am Antonio & Maggie Borja +
<b><u>Tuesday, February 6th</u></b> 6:30 am Martin Bacon 8:30 am Laura Ann Valentine	<b><u>Vigil Mass</u></b> 5:00 pm <b>Fr. Bergida</b> Judy Raymond +
<b><u>Wednesday, February 7th</u></b> 6:30 am Michael Kephart + 8:30 am Caitlin Roche + 7:00 pm Celebrant's Intention	<b><u>Sunday, February 11th</u></b> 7:00 am <b>Fr. Rippy</b> Juanita Boarman + 9:00 am <b>Fr. Bergida</b> Parishioners 11:00 am <b>Fr. De Celles</b> Ronald Baclig + 1:00 pm <b>Fr. De Celles</b> RE Students and their Families
<b><u>Thursday, February 8th</u></b> 6:30 am Ana & Luis Borja + 8:30 am Pat O'Neil +	
<b><u>Friday, February 9th</u></b> 6:30 am John Carter Blair 8:30 am Luis Tapia Family	

**View livestreaming of the Holy Mass at St. Raymond's!**

[www.straymonds.org](http://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

(See the website for Holy Days)

**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 February!**

**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!

**Bake Sale Feb. 10-11.** Join St. Raymond's American Heritage Girls troop VA0683 for a St. Valentine's Day / Super Bowl Sunday Bake and Snack Sale on the weekend of February 10-11 after all masses. We will be in the Narthex with sweets and snacks. Please come support our troop!

**Lenten Soup Suppers will begin on February 16th!** Please join your fellow parishioners for a delicious but simple meal **each Friday during Lent, 5:30-7pm**. Bring your family or a friend and either a pot of homemade meatless soup, macaroni & cheese, fruit, salad or bread to share.

**Director of Religious Education Vacancy** - Reporting to the Pastor, the Director of Religious Education (DRE) assists the Pastor in the Faith Formation programs for the parish. For more information, questions about the position or to apply, contact Mary Butler at 703-440-0535 or [mary.butler@straymonds.org](mailto:mary.butler@straymonds.org).

**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.

**Ryan Higgins—safely returned home!**

**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 Donald Trayer Ellen Trayer Virginia Cummings	Tom Swengros Arlene Pietraszko Jean Seiberling Fran Zograib Helen Zograib Robert Petitti Margaret Carter Dr. Joel Gelman Nancy Christman Karen Adelman
--	---	---

**Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church**

<b>Feb. 4</b>	<b>Donut Sunday</b>
<b>Feb. 5</b>	<b>Family of Jesus Prayer Group</b>
<b>Feb. 6</b>	<b>Bible Study</b>
<b>Feb. 7</b>	<b>Adoration 9am - 7pm</b>
<b>Feb. 7</b>	<b>Legion of Mary</b>
<b>Feb. 9</b>	<b>Book Club Meeting</b>
<b>Feb. 10</b>	<b>First Penance for RE students</b>
<b>Feb. 10</b>	<b>Women's Pre-Lent Retreat</b>
<b>Feb. 10-11</b>	<b>American Heritage Girls Bake Sale</b>
<b>Feb. 14</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>
	<b>Masses at 6:30am, 8:30am, noon, 5:00 pm &amp; 7:00 pm</b>
<b>Feb. 16</b>	<b>Soup Supper and Stations of the Cross</b>

**Donut Sunday, this weekend, Feb. 4th** after the 7:00, 9:00, and 11:00 am Masses. Stop by the Parish Hall after Mass to enjoy some treats and drinks and meet your fellow parishioners. We will also have **LOST & FOUND** items out for you to check. February's Donut Sunday will be hosted by members of our Legion of Mary and Samaritans Group.

**Women's Retreat on February 10, 2024:** The Women's Apostolate to Youth (WAY) will once again host a retreat for the women of the parish on the Saturday before Lent begins, 8:30 am - 1:30 pm. This year's retreat is entitled, "**Soul of Christ, Sanctify Me: Reflections on the Anima Christi Prayer.**" In recognition of the National Eucharistic Revival, this retreat will help us prepare for our personal and communal Lenten journey through the words of this beautiful prayer. The day begins with Mass, and continues with talks by members of WAY, Eucharistic Adoration, Rosary, Confessions, and lunch. **Please visit the parish website to register by Feb. 5th.** No cost to attend. You may call the office with any questions.

**February Book Club:** The parish Book Club next meets on Friday, February 9th at 10:00 AM in the St Raymond Library to discuss "**From Slave to Priest: The Inspirational Story of Father Augustine Tolton**" by Caroline Hemesath. The schedule for the year is posted on the parish website at <https://straymonds.org/ministries-and-groups/book-club/>. New members are welcome. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Mault at [bookclub@straymonds.org](mailto:bookclub@straymonds.org).



## THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ARE RECRUITING IN THE NARTHEX THIS WEEKEND! Join the St. John Bosco Council of St.

**Raymond's Parish today!** Be sure to stop by and meet with a Knight after Mass to learn about the many reasons to become a Knight today! Or, go to <https://www.kofc.org/joinus> 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! Don't delay ... start 2024 with a bold and consequential step ... **BECOME A KNIGHT!**

### Upcoming Events:

2/3-4 Membership Recruitment Drive (after Masses)  
2/8 Officer Meeting (7pm – Library)  
2/12 Membership Meeting (7pm Rosary; 7:30pm mtg)  
2/18 Free Throw Challenge

**CAR RAFFLE TIME!** Car raffle tickets have been mailed to each family registered in the Parish. Through ticket sales, charitable causes and parishes (including our own) throughout the area are able to provide for many needs, including our building maintenance fund and Our Lady of Ransom Scholarship Fund! In addition, each purchaser has a chance to win four cars plus cash prizes! This makes "selling" at work or to family and friends more like an opportunity – just show them the ticket – it will sell itself! Please note that raffle tickets must be processed at All Saints, as they have in years past. Please mail to All Saints in the envelope provided and make your checks payable to ALL SAINTS. If you have any questions or would like to purchase additional tickets, please contact Mark Lawton at (703) 576-7693. Thank you for your support!

**THE SAMARITAN GROUP WANTS TO HELP YOU!** Did you know that 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.

**Women of the Parish are invited to join The Women's Apostolate to Youth (WAY)**, an inter-generational lay association for Catholic women, whose shared charism is the spiritual well-being of young people. **Women are invited to join us 3 Wednesdays a month at 7:30pm -all at St. Raymond's this year.** We are discussing writings of St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross and Women of the Bible. Each meeting is designed to stand alone -perfect for women interested in getting to know WAY. Our third monthly event is a Holy Hour and Mass to pray for troubled youth. For the complete schedule and for more information, please visit [www.waywomen.com](http://www.waywomen.com) and email [womenofway@gmail.com](mailto:womenofway@gmail.com), or call the parish office.

**The Parish HSG is offering a new RPM co-op** for Catholic families with nonverbal or verbally limited children (severe autism/CP/Down Syndrome/etc.) RPM (Rapid Prompt Method) uses a letterboard and spelling to learn/ increase communication. The class will meet every Monday from noon to 2pm, beginning February 5th. Sessions will be led by a level 4 RPM practitioner either in person or through Zoom, and cost depends upon the number of families. For more information contact Sarah Castle, 978.995.6603, [cscastlefreelance@gmail.com](mailto:cscastlefreelance@gmail.com).

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

**Thank you to all who visited the A Best Choice Mobile Ultrasound unit last Sunday.** Endorsed by Bishop Burbidge, ABC is the only mobile ultrasound available in northern Virginia. Eight out of ten abortion minded moms who see their baby on ultrasound choose life. Counselors on board the Christ centered mobile unit provide moms with pro-life resources to help them find the right alternative to abortion. Thank you for your life-affirming support! For more information, visit [abestchoice.us](http://abestchoice.us).

**Thank you** to all who stood up for the sanctity of life, especially for the unborn, at the National March for Life last week. Let it not be said of us that we were silent when the innocent needed us. "I came that they might have life!"

**Please plan to attend the 2024 Pro-Life Day on February 21 in Richmond.** In our post-Roe world, the battle for the sanctity of life in the womb is closer to home. Saint Raymond's will be sending one bus to Richmond. Seats are free but reservations are required. Sign Up sheets are in the narthex. **Voice your prolife support in Virginia!** For more information: [vaprolifeday.org](http://vaprolifeday.org).

The spring Campaign of **40 Days for Life** begins on Ash Wednesday – 14 February. Stay tuned for sign-up sheets in the narthex. Our witness weekend will be 9 – 10 March. Thank you for peacefully and prayerfully standing up for life!

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](http://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](http://abortionpillreversal.com).

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

**Help After Abortion: Project Rachel Helpline:** (703) 841-2504 (888-456-HOPE) **For Men:** (703) 841-3833 or [info@helpafterabortion.org](mailto:info@helpafterabortion.org)

**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](mailto:GabrielProject@arlingtondiocese.org).

**The Spiritual Works of Mercy compel us to visit the imprisoned, but few are called to physically enter jails.** However, we can and should pray for those who are imprisoned. In Alexandria, just 15 miles from here, 8 peaceful pro-life activists are imprisoned awaiting sentencing for entering an abortion clinic in DC in 2020 to try to convince mothers not to abort their babies. Now they face up to 11 years in jail. Please pray for justice for Lauren, Heather, Herb, John, Will, Jonathan, Joan, Jean and Paulette (house arrest, 75 years old in poor health) that they may not despair and that Our Lord will comfort and protect them. "Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." Jn 8:32

## 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 Sunday, February 4th

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

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

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

### Sons of Thunder: High School Guys' Group

**7-8:30pm Tuesdays, February 6th & 20th (Maurer Room)**

**High School Men:** Join the brotherhood! Our next 2 meetings (February 6th & 20th), we will be making caskets for the miscarried and still born babies to donate to A Mom's Peace in Manassas. Mr. Hildebrand will be leading this project. Please bring your fathers to help. If you have been thinking about checking out the Sons of Thunder but haven't yet acted on it, this is a great opportunity to meet the guys and make a difference at the same time!

### Friday 6:30am Mass & Breakfast Club this week 2/9

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 Thursday 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!



### WorkCamp/Summer Service Week ADULTS Needed

St. Raymond's will not be participating in the diocesan WorkCamp this year as there has been a lot of interest in holding our own "WorkCamp" type week at the parish level again. Plans are in the works for a week of service here at the parish after school is out in June or July. **Please email Jeanne if you are interested in being on the committee of volunteers to help organize/execute this event for our high school youth.** We'll set up a planning meeting soon!

### Scholarship Contests/Opportunities for youth in grades 7-12.

- \* Scholarship opportunities are available. Check the website for details and deadlines. <https://bit.ly/StRayYAnews>
- \* Cardinal Newman Society Essay Scholarship Contest for High School Seniors. Compete for a scholarship of \$5,000 with the chance for up to \$20,000! (And one of St. Raymond's own has won this in the past!) **Deadline: February 20th.**
- \* USCCB Religious Liberty Essay Contest for juniors & seniors **Due: March 29th** <https://www.usccb.org/religious-liberty-essay>

Jeanne Sause

Director of the Youth Apostolate (Grades 7-12)

[youth@straymonds.org](mailto: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!

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

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**WE ARE SO VERY PROUD** of our students, parents, and catechists for the excellent results on the midterm exam. All your hard work has paid off - together we have achieved great success!

The program test average was 87%. God bless you all!

### Parents of Second Grade and RCIC students:

First Penance is scheduled for Saturday, February 10th immediately following the 9 a.m. Mass. Please attend Mass with your child that morning to prepare for this wonderful sacrament of healing! Check your email (1/25/24) for more details.

**Home School Group:** for more information visit our website [www.homeschool-life.com/va/straymondhsg/](http://www.homeschool-life.com/va/straymondhsg/)  
Or email [straymondhsg@gmail.com](mailto: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 or [bridgeclub402@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeclub402@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining us.

**Pilgrim Virgin Statue visitation to your home:** The Legion of Mary's Fatima (Pilgrim Virgin) statue will be on display from Friday - Sunday, February 2-4, in the narthex. Please sign up to have the statue visit your home for a week. This is such a great way to pray with your family, friends and relatives! The Legion of Mary point of contact is Judy Mayer, 703-627-7320 or [jmayer9014@aol.com](mailto:jmayer9014@aol.com).

**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](mailto: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.

**Christendom College will host their first Spring Open House** on Saturday, February 24, from 12 - 5 pm at its Front Royal, Virginia campus. See why Pope St. John Paul II said, "Christendom College is doing a great work for the Church" by hearing from College President Dr. Timothy O'Donnell, sitting in on a class, touring campus, and hearing about Christendom's authentically Catholic culture. Students can sign up at [www.christendom.edu/openhouse](http://www.christendom.edu/openhouse).

**After Abortion Retreat:** A Day of Prayer & Healing for women who have experienced abortion will be held on **Saturday, February 10, 2024**. These group healing events are held in a private and peaceful setting, in English and in Spanish, based on the Entering Canaan model (2 separate retreats, in 1 location). There will be an opportunity to hear from a past participant and others who have found healing. You are not alone. Take the first step. For confidential inquiries, please contact Project Rachel Ministry: (703) 841-2504 or [info@helpafterabortion.org](mailto:info@helpafterabortion.org).

**The 2024 BLA mailing was recently sent to parishioners.** The theme this year is shared with the theme of our Diocesan Jubilee: "Behold, I make all things new." After reflecting upon the blessings God has given you, please prayerfully consider a pledge. As we look forward to the celebration of the 50-year Golden Anniversary of our diocese, let us renew our commitment to the Lord and be inspired to share what we have received from Him. Make a gift at: [www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA).

## Church Persecuted

### The State of Religious Liberty in the United States – Part 2

In the executive branch of the federal government, rules change based on the occupant in the White House. In 2008, President George W. Bush published a set of regulations allowing medical personnel to refrain from participating in procedures such as abortion, sterilizations for birth control purposes, etc. In 2009, the Obama Administration revoked the executive order, which was reinstated and expanded by the Trump Administration and now is subject to a substantial proposed revision issued under President Biden in January 2023. The formal process of executing a revision to a regulation requires a period of public comment. The public comment against this ruling was so extensive that the final rules have been postponed several times as the department of HHS is required to review each of the comments. With this backdrop, the 2011 so-called “contraceptive mandate” of the Obama Administration provided a very narrow religious exception to religious employers for delivering contraception, sterilization, and abortion-inducing drugs. In the famous Little Sisters of the Poor case, the Supreme Court in *Zubik v. Burwell* did not resolve the issue, but questioned “whether the so-called accommodation for religiously objecting employers violated the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, a federal law that protects religious freedom,” and sent the case back to the federal circuit court.

“The Trump Administration inherited the regulations and revised them to add outright exemptions for employers with religious or moral objections.” Now the Biden Administration is seeking to eliminate the Trump regulations and effectively return to the draconian Obama-era regulations. Stay tuned.

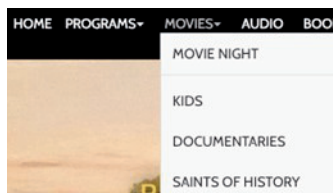
<https://www.usccb.org/committees/religious-liberty/2024-annual-report>



Get In-Formed!

*See the Formed bulletin board by the central doors of the vestibule for more suggestions*

New Year's Resolution: **Watch good Christian/Catholic Movies**



From the Formed home page, select “Movies” and explore the categories: Movie Night, Kids, Documentaries, Saints of History, Apologetics, Men & Women of Faith, Devotionals.

**Available for FREE!** To set up an account, visit [Formed.org/signup](https://Formed.org/signup) and select our parish.

Questions? Need help? Email us at: [formed@straymonds.org](mailto: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](mailto: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://AngelusAcademy.org/admissions-overview/applying/)

Call or Email Julie Maimone, Director of Admissions, at [Admissions@angelusacademy.org](mailto: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](https://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 if a family truly can't afford Catholic school, even with the above scholarships. These decisions are made on a case by case basis. There is also **assistance available for homeschooling families.** Contact the parish office for more information.

**St. Martin de Porres Committee** - collects food on an ongoing basis for the Springfield Resource Center, which serves over 250 families in the Springfield area. A collection box is in the Narthex and donations are collected and distributed weekly. Suggested food items are listed, but all donations are welcome (no clothing). For equitable distribution, smaller packaging is requested (i.e. 1 lb bags of rice vs. 5 lb. bags, 1 qt. oil vs. 1 gal oil).

### FAITH DIRECT JAN. 2024

Offertory	\$ 47,239.25
Family Assistance	\$ 2,851.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 6,410.00
Our Lady of Ransom Catholic	
School Scholarship Donations	\$ 5,457.00
Church in Latin America	\$ 2,057.00

### JANUARY 28, 2024 COLLECTION

Sunday Offertory	\$ 14,979.00
Family Assistance	\$ 205.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 570.00
Our Lady of Ransom Catholic	
School Scholarship Donations	\$ 1,060.00
Church in Latin America	\$ 1,030.00

Our Second Collection this weekend is for the Diocesan Newspaper, *The Catholic Herald*



**SUMMIT ROOFING CONTRACTORS INC.**  
Roofing • Gutters • Siding  
**703.368.7483**  
[info@summitroofing.com](mailto:info@summitroofing.com) | [summitroofing.com](http://summitroofing.com)  
Free Estimates • Family Owned and Operated  
Serving Northern Virginia for over 35 years  
**40 Year Diocesan Member**

**SENIOR AND MILITARY DISCOUNTS!**  
**FINANCING AVAILABLE**  
**ROOFING**  
DECKS • SIDING  
GUTTERS  
FREE wind & Hail Damage  
Inspections for Roofs Insurance Claims Specialists  
**MidAtlantic CONTRACTING INC.**  
Voted Best in Business  
703-492-HOME (4663)  
or 571-408-4349  
[www.MACContracting.com](http://www.MACContracting.com)

**KINGSTOWNE ORTHODONTICS**  
John Wiger, D.D.S., M.S.D.  
Specialist in Orthodontics  
[www.KingstowneOrthodontics.com](http://www.KingstowneOrthodontics.com)  
7574 Telegraph Road  
Alexandria, VA 22315  
**703-971-2220**

 **Get this bulletin emailed to you every week.**  
  
Simply go to  
[www.DM.CHURCH/3309](http://www.DM.CHURCH/3309)  
  
...or scan   
  


  
**Consider Remembering Your Parish in Your Will**  
  
For further information,  
please call the parish office.  
  
**NOW HIRING**  
**SALES REPRESENTATIVE**  
**DIOCESAN**  
Catholic Life Every Day  
**PUT YOUR FAITH TO WORK.**  
Join Our Family - [Diocesan.com/Careers](http://Diocesan.com/Careers)

 The App for Catholic Life Every Day  
[www.myParishApp.com](http://www.myParishApp.com)  
Available for Apple and Android  
  
**EWTN.COM/RADIO**  
  
**EWTN**  
Global Catholic Radio  
**TUNE IN**

**LIVE ACTION**  
[www.liveaction.org](http://www.liveaction.org)  
 @LiveAction  @LiveActionOrg

*The Businesses listed above  
make this bulletin possible.*

**Please support them when you can.**

**Sign up to get our bulletin in your email each week.**

**Go to [DiscoverMass.com/subscribe](http://DiscoverMass.com/subscribe)**

**Aviation Consulting Expertise, LLC**  
  
 Doug "Smash" Yurovich, PhD  
 Colonel USMC (Ret)  
 571.643.6019  
 Certified Flight and Instrument Instructor  
 Leadership & Mentoring for Aviation Organizations  
[acell918@gmail.com](mailto:acell918@gmail.com)

**MURPHY LAW GROUP, PLLC**  
 Wills, Trusts, Estates, & More  
 9300-B Old Keene Mill Road, Burke, VA  
 703-455-7177  
[www.MurphyLawVA.com](http://www.MurphyLawVA.com)

**VIRGINIA EYECARE CENTER**  
 MEMBER OF VISION SOURCE  
 (703) 569-3131  
 Dr. Courtney Shay  
 Dr. Tim LaFreniere  
 Dr. Kathryn Huebner  
 Dr. Mallory Cranmer  
 Dr. Bryan Procopio  
 Dr. Jen Weigel

**KELLIHER FAMILY DENTISTS**  
 Jeremiah J. Kelliher, D.D.S.  
 Sean P. Kelliher, D.D.S.  
 Karen Kelliher Wilson, R.D.H.  
 Kathleen Kelliher Ketch, R.D.H.  
 (703) 451-5030  
 6120 Brandon Ave.  
 Suite 211, Springfield


**Peter K. Cocolis Jr., DMD**  
 Family & Cosmetic Dentistry  
  
 Call 703-912-3800  
 • Quality Care  
 • Latest Techniques  
 • Convenient Appointments  
 5803 Rolling Road  
 Suite 211  
 Next to Interstate Van Lines

**Jefferson Funeral Chapel**  
 703-971-7400  
 Family owned  
 5755 Castlewella Drive  
 Alexandria, VA 22315  
 Just off S. VanDorn Street  
 behind Edison High School (Kingstowne)


**AAL APPRAISAL, LLC**  
 REAL ESTATE  
 Alfonso Lievano  
 Real Estate Residential Appraiser  
 Cell: 703.863.8970  
[aalappraisals2007@gmail.com](mailto:aalappraisals2007@gmail.com)  
 7602 Cervantes Ct.  
 Springfield, VA 22153  
 By Appointment  
 SOLVING YOUR REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL NEEDS

9314-A Old Keene Mill Rd  
[www.virginiaeyecare.com](http://www.virginiaeyecare.com)

**MATHNASIUM**  
 The Math Learning Center  
 703-690-MATH (6284)  
 • Expert Instruction  
 • Custom Learning Plan  
 • Proven Results  
 • Homework Help  
 • Test Prep  
 • Enrichment

**EDDIE GREENAN JEWELERS, INC.**  
  
 Eddie Greenan  
 6310A Springfield Plaza  
 Springfield, VA 22150  
 703.644.3933  
 St. Patrick Parishioners  
 Family Owned and Operated

**Milano's**  
 Family Restaurant  
 Lunch & Dinner Served 7 Days a Week  
 Breakfast served Saturday from 10 a.m. till 2 p.m. & Sunday from 9 a.m. till 2 p.m.  
  
 703-569-7550  
 6230-G Rolling Rd • Springfield, VA  
[www.milanofamilyrestaurant.com](http://www.milanofamilyrestaurant.com)

IN LOVING  
 MEMORY OF  
  
 Richard  
 Gutknecht

**catholicmatch®**  
 Virginia  
  
 CatholicMatch.com/goVA

**D Hair Salon & Barber**  
 Color and Highlights. • \$4 OFF mens haircuts  
 20% OFF single service for 1st time customers  
[dhairstalonandbarber.com](http://dhairstalonandbarber.com) • 703-455-1919  
 7481 Huntsman Boulevard, Springfield, VA 22153

**PJI LAW**  
 Wills, Trusts, & Probate  
 for Catholic Families  
 (703) 865-6100  
 Fairfax, VA  
 www.pjilaw.com | welcome@pjilaw.com  


**Caffi SERVICES, INC**  
 PLUMBING HEATING HVAC REMODELING  
 1313 POWHATAN STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314-1342  
 (703) 836-6775  
[www.caffiservices.com](http://www.caffiservices.com)  
[service@caffiservices.com](mailto:service@caffiservices.com)  
 Serving the DC Metropolitan Area since 1967

LOCATED IN THE SARATOGA SHOPPING CTR.  
 8050 Rolling Rd. • Springfield, VA  
**BREAKFAST:**  
 Saturday & Sunday  
 9am-2pm  
  
**LUNCH & DINNER:**  
 Daily  
 11am-9pm  
 703.455.0044  
 Like us on facebook  
 SARATOGAPIZZERIA.COM

**BOGACKI & BOGACKI DDS, PC**  
 Family and Cosmetic Dentistry  
 Friendly and Courteous Staff  
 You've probably seen us, we're regulars of St. Raymond  
 8344 Traford Lane  
 Springfield, VA 22152  
 (703) 451-2867  
[www.BogackiDental.com](http://www.BogackiDental.com)

**ADVERTISE HERE**  
 Promote your Business  
 AND Support your Parish.  
 Give us a call! 800-233-8200

Voted #1 Most Trusted  
 Real Estate Agents in the USA  
**RE/MAX Executives**  
**Michelle Surtees**  
 Member of the NOVA Catholic Community  
 Cell: 571.356.1445  
 Office: 703.239.2525  
[BuyandSellwithMichelleS@gmail.com](mailto:BuyandSellwithMichelleS@gmail.com)  
[www.BruceandTanya.com](http://www.BruceandTanya.com)

(703) 716-ROOF (7663) | [www.sjroof.com](http://www.sjroof.com)  
  
**ST JOSEPH'S ROOFING**  
 Roofing | Siding | Gutters | Windows/Doors  
 Insurance Claims | Storm Damage | Repairs

