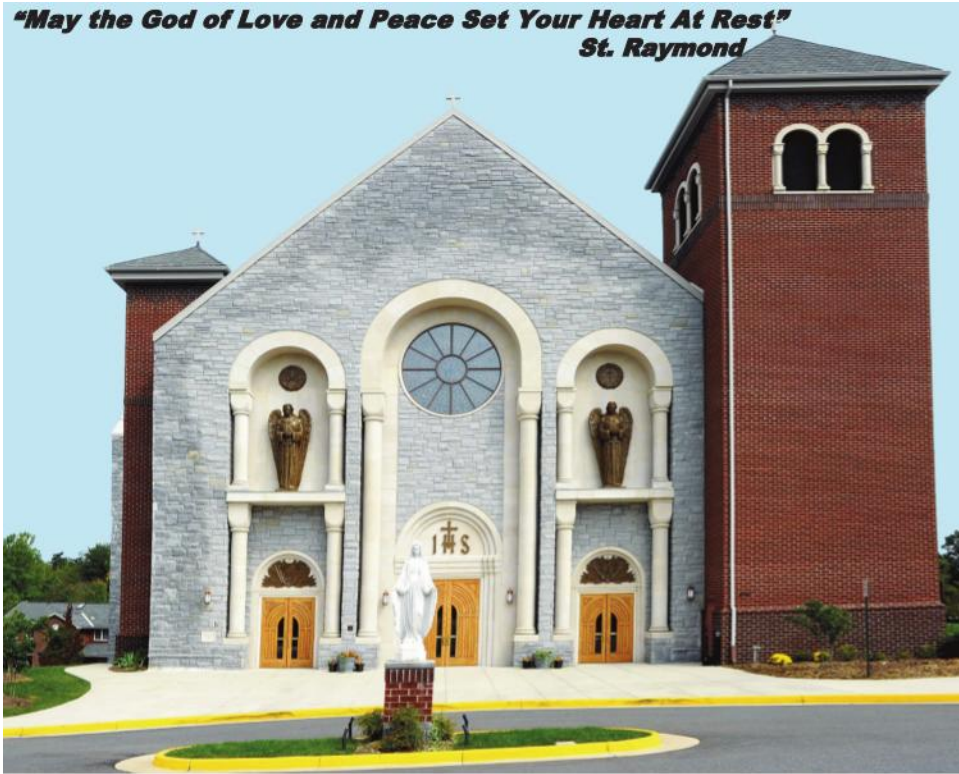


**"May the God of Love and Peace Set Your Heart At Rest"  
St. Raymond**



## **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  
Virginia Osella, Director of Religious Education  
Mary Hansen, Religious Education Secretary  
Michael Thompson, Plant Manager  
Maerose Naduvilekunnel, Business Manager  
Mary Butler, Parish Secretary  
Dominique Murray, Office Assistant

### **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)  
Pastor: [fdc@straymonds.org](mailto:fdc@straymonds.org)  
Rel. Ed.: [ReligiousEducation@straymonds.org](mailto:ReligiousEducation@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 to [bulletin@straymonds.org](mailto:bulletin@straymonds.org) 10 days prior to publication date.

## Pastor's Corner

**EUCCHARIST MIRACLES & BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS.** Two weeks ago, on May 23, Pope Francis formally recognized a miracle attributed to the intercession of Blessed Carlo Acutis, a 15-year-old Italian teenager, and on July 1 will formally announce that Bd. Carlo will be canonized a saint. He will be the first "millennial" to become a saint.

Blessed Carlo was born in London to Italian parents in 1991, but the family moved back to Milan, Italy, while he was still an infant.

After he started high school, he began to create websites, and to create an online database of Eucharistic miracles around the world.

He was devoted to the Eucharist and to Our Lady, praying a daily rosary. He also volunteered at a church-run soup kitchen, helped the poor in his neighborhood, and assisted children struggling with their homework. He also did a lot of things more typical of teens: he played an instrument (saxophone), soccer and videogames.

"To always be close to Jesus, that's my life plan," he wrote when he was 7 years old. Later he would write: "The more Eucharist we receive, the more we will become like Jesus so that on this earth we will have a foretaste of Heaven." He would also write: "The Eucharist is the highway to heaven...[When people sit in the sun, they become tan] but when they sit before Eucharistic Jesus, they become saints."

When he was only 15, he was diagnosed with an aggressive form of leukemia and died Oct. 12, 2006. He said, "I'm happy to die because I've lived my life without wasting even a minute of it doing things that wouldn't have pleased God." He was beatified in October 2020. His feast day is Oct. 12.

Blessed Carlo's efforts to catalogue Eucharistic Miracles around the world began when he was just 11 years old and at his request his parents took him to all the places of the Eucharistic miracles. Two and half years later the project was completed.

[A "Eucharistic miracle" is a private revelation (worthy of belief, but not requiring belief), consisting of unexplainable phenomena such as the consecrated Host visibly transforming into heart tissue, being preserved for extremely long stretches of time, bleeding, or even sustaining people as food for years.]

Blessed Carlo researched over 136 Eucharistic miracles that occurred over the centuries and have been acknowledged by the Church and collected them into a virtual museum. Besides creating a website to house this virtual museum, he helped create panel presentations that have traveled around the world.

I am pleased to invite you to experience this panel presentation, **EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES OF THE WORLD**, which will be on display, here at St. Raymond's this coming week, June 14-16 in our Parish Hall. Viewing hours are: Friday 2pm to 7pm, Saturday 9am to 7pm, and Sunday 9am to 4pm. The display will also include a **First Class Relic of Blessed (soon to be Saint) Carlo Acutis**.

Please join us and learn about the Eucharistic Miracles.

**MONTH OF THE SACRED HEART.** Sadly, many in our post-Christian/neo-pagan society are observing the Month of  
View this bulletin online at [www.DiscoverMass.com](http://www.DiscoverMass.com)

June as "Pride Month," celebrating the perversities of the LGBTQ+ movement.

But for almost 200 years Catholics have celebrated June as the Month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. And what does Jesus say about His Heart? "I am meek and **humble of heart**."

The Sacred Heart is a humble heart, not a prideful heart. And so St. Paul tells us, "Christ Jesus, who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant...**He humbled Himself** and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross."

It is in His humility that He was able to love the Father as a Son so much that Jesus would obey His Father unto death, and able to love us so much He would die in service to us.

Let June be a month of humility for you. And in your humility, reject the pride of Adam and Eve, and imitate Christ, making the words of St. Peter your own: "we must obey God rather than man."

**Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.** This last Friday, June 7, was the Feast of the Sacred Heart. This feast was established by Pope Pius IX in 1856, reflecting the request Our Lord made in an apparition to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, when showed her His heart and told her,

*"Behold the Heart which has so loved men that it has spared nothing, even to exhausting and consuming Itself, in order to testify Its love; and in return, I receive from the greater part only ingratitude, by their irreverence and sacrilege, and by the coldness and contempt they have for Me in this Sacrament of Love. ...Therefore, I ask of you that the Friday after the Octave of Corpus Christi be set apart for a special Feast to honor My Heart..."*

**Sacred Heart Flags.** This month we'll be seeing the rainbow-colored flag of Pride all over the place. I encourage you to display the Flag of the Sacred Heart. Small versions of these are available by the doors of the Church and in the Narthex—take one home with you. You can put it in your window, on your desk at work, or even in the privacy of your home. Let it remind you and anyone who sees it, that the Sacred Heart of Jesus conquers "pride" with grace, humility and true charity.

The Parish will fly a larger version of this flag in the church and in front of the rectory throughout June. (You can also get a larger version from many places online, e.g., [tradflags.com](http://tradflags.com)).

**OTHER IMPORTANT STUFF.** Congratulations to our **recent graduates**, especially from College and High School. God bless you as you begin the adventures ahead. Remember: stay close to Jesus, he is the ultimate success and happiness in life.

**Parish Staff Changes.** Tomorrow, Monday, brings some changes to our staff. Last week we said **goodbye to Mary Salmon**, our outstanding long-time Director of Religious Education (DRE). This week we play a little musical chairs: **Virginia Osella** moves from being Parish Secretary to take over as DRE, and **Mary Butler** moves from Secretary/Special-Projects-Coordinator to be the Parish Secretary. The following week we will welcome **Elizabeth Frazee** to join our staff to take over Mary Butler's former responsibilities. I thank them all for accepting these responsibilities and ask that you keep them in your prayers.

*Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles*



**MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>Monday, June 10th</b> 6:30 am Mike Malachowski + 8:30 am Msgr. Frank McGrath +	<b>Saturday, June 15th</b> 9:00 Rudy & Len Maluyo +  <b>Vigil Mass</b> 5:00 pm James Miller +
<b>Tuesday, June 11th</b> 6:30 am Terry Warren + 8:30 am John V. Bonner +	<b>Sunday, June 16th</b> 7:00 am Natalie Marie Butler 9:00 am Parishioners 11:00 am Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge 1:00 pm Father's Day Triduum
<b>Wednesday, June 12th</b> 6:30 am Terry Witmer 8:30 am Liz Haberkorn Plust +	
<b>Thursday, June 13th</b> 6:30 am Jeff Dubois + 8:30 am Tairiek Labish +	
<b>Friday, June 14th</b> 6:30 am Max Vizcarra + 8:30 am Romeo Baclig +	

**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)

**Summer Schedule Changes (June-August).** Beginning June 5, there will **not be a 7pm Mass** on Wednesdays. Wednesday Adoration and Confession schedules will be unaffected. Starting June 9th, there will **no Confessions on Sunday**.

**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 June!** All are invited to attend.

**Father's Day Triduum:** Sunday, June 16th is Father's Day. We will be honoring fathers with a Triduum of Masses on June 16-18. If you would like to include the special fathers in your life (i.e. Father, Grandfather, Godfather, etc.), cards are available in the narthex after all Masses this weekend. Please return the offering envelopes **by Friday, June 14!**

**St. Raymond's has Adoration 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 and 1:00 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 the office at 703-440-0535. Drop-ins are always welcome!

**Parish Picnic Committee.** Saint Raymond's parish picnic is August 25. We are looking for a committee lead to plan and execute the details of the picnic. We are also looking for volunteers interested in joining the committee to support the event. For more information or to sign up, please contact the parish office at office@straymonds.org or call 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.

**Ryan Higgins**

**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 Ted Tolpa Nena Brennan Serrin Foster Margaret O'Neill Donald Trayer	Ellen Trayer Arlene Pietraszko Virginia Cummings Helen Zogaib Erich Whitt Carmen Schultz David Berger
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**Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church**

- June 10** Family of Jesus Prayer Group
- June 12** Legion of Mary 6:30pm
- June 12** Adoration 9am - 7pm
- June 14** Adoration 9am - 3pm
- June 15** Men's Prayer Group
- June 14-16** Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit
- June 16-18** Father's Day Triduum
- Aug 25** Parish Picnic

**EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES EXHIBIT** coming to St. Raymond's June 14-16, 2024. This exhibit will be on display in the Parish Hall Friday 2-7 pm, Saturday 9 am-7 pm and Sunday 9 am-4 pm. You can browse through the exhibit at your own pace, take time to venerate a first-class relic of Blessed Carlo, as well as enjoy a 35-minute video on the life of Blessed Carlo Acutis. Handouts & worksheets will also be available for parishioners young and old alike, along with a book table. During these years of Eucharistic Revival, let us take advantage of this opportunity to draw closer to the Real Presence of our Eucharistic Lord.

**Young Adult Theology on Tap:** Our very own **Fr. Bergida** is giving a talk on **Rules for Making Good Decisions and Moving Forward in Life**. June 18, doors open at 6:30, talk begins at 7:30. Location: Manor Line's Back 40 Coffee Shop, Front Royal, VA. Life is messy; decision making can be difficult. Where should I live? What career should I follow? Do I date this person or that one? Our Faith can help answer these questions and give us a roadmap. Come learn some tips from Scripture and the saints.

**Samaritan Group Lead Needed!** This group provides rides or meals to our parishioners in their time of need. The lead role is to receive and disseminate requests from parishioners to your group (of a dozen plus) volunteers. If you think you can serve our parish community in this way, please contact the parish office. Also, please call if the Samaritan Group can help you!

**Our Trail Life USA Troop is actively seeking volunteers to join our team!** We are reaching out to our parish community for dedicated individuals who are eager to contribute, whether or not you have children in the troop. While experience with Trail Life, American Heritage Girls, or other youth-development organizations is preferred, it is not required, as training and support will be provided. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Keith Oswald at TrailLifeUSA@straymonds.org. We are excited to welcome new faces and fresh ideas into our Troop family!



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** are **MEN** who stand for many things ... most importantly, their **FAITH**, their **FAMILIES**, and their **COUNTRY**. As the saying goes, there is strength in numbers and these days, perhaps more than ever before, the **KNIGHTS** need **YOU!** By joining the Knights of Columbus, you will become part of the largest Catholic fraternity in the world, grow in faith and be supported by a true brotherhood built on shared values! Don't wait ... join the Knights now! 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 stand on the sidelines ... don't delay ... enter the fray ... **BECOME A KNIGHT!**



#### Upcoming Events:

- 6/8-9 KOVAR Collections (After Mass)
- 6/10 Membership Meeting (Parish Hall)
- 6/15 Adopt-a-Highway Pickup
- 6/19 Pints with Aquinas
- 6/29 Installation Ceremony for New Officers



**Knights of Columbus Annual KOVAR Collection:** KOVAR is a Virginia Knights of Columbus Charity established in 1971 to provide financial assistance to people with intellectual disabilities. These include a variety of activities, including the Special Olympics. The Knights of Columbus will be collecting donations for KOVAR after all Masses during the weekend of 8-9 June 2024. Please be generous in your support. Donations can be cash, check or via debit/credit card using this QR Code:



**PINTS WITH AQUINAS:** The Knights of Columbus invite all men of the parish to a night of theology, fraternity, fire, and bourbon on Wednesday, June 19th outside the parish hall at 7:30pm. Fr. Bergida will be presenting the theology. The Knights will be providing the fire, food, and fraternity with a short presentation and tasting of local spirits. Even if you are not a Knight, you are welcome to join us. You can start the night with adoration and come down after benediction! The event is free.

**Coach Leah's Lacrosse Camp for girls** is back! Join us for 5 days of top tier instruction, games, competition and tons of FUN! This camp is the perfect opportunity for girls in grades 3-9 to refine their skills and learn from the best. Our dedicated coaching staff, consisting of former college players and current varsity athletes, will provide expert instruction in a supportive and encouraging environment. Who: Grades 3-9, June 24-28, Bishop O'Connell HS. Sign your daughter up today! Refer a friend or teammate and receive \$10 registration at check out. Learn more and register at [www.coachleahlax.com](http://www.coachleahlax.com)

**Weekend Discernment Retreat for Women in June.** The annual diocesan discernment retreat for single women who feel called to a religious vocation is Friday-Sunday, June 14-16. It will also include tools to aid your prayer and discernment, as well as opportunities for prayer, confession, spiritual direction, and Q&A with the sisters. Cost is \$150 (financial assistance is available). For more information or to register, contact Fr. Michael Isenberg at [vocations@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:vocations@arlingtondiocese.org). Space is limited; deadline to register is Monday, June 10.

## SAINT RAYMOND'S RESPECTS LIFE

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

**MaRiH Pregnancy Care Center:** We proudly partner with MaRiH (Mary Rose in Haste – to help Elizabeth) 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 for generously supporting this work of mercy.** Donations welcome in the narthex collection box near the elevator. [marih.org](http://marih.org). See their lovely thank you note in the narthex!

Do you have a real-life (not simply academic) bioethical question? **The National Catholic Bioethics Center** offers explanations of Catholic moral teaching to help you form your conscience in fidelity to the magisterium. Free confidential person to person interaction. [ncbcenter.org/consultation-form](http://ncbcenter.org/consultation-form). An ethicist will respond within 5 business days. Urgent matter? Call 215-877-2660.

**Tepeyac Pro Life OB/GYN: Transforming Hearts Through Healthcare.** [tepeyacobgyn.com](http://tepeyacobgyn.com) 703-273-9440. The center strives to be an instrument of the healing power of God's mercy and love, in order that a deeper respect for all human life may be nurtured. Thank you for your referrals and your support. *Save the date for their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration: November 8<sup>th</sup>!*

**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).

Have you taken or do you know someone who has taken an **abortion pill**? Abortion reversal helpline 855-209-4848. **It may not be too late.** [abortionpillreversal.com](http://abortionpillreversal.com).

**Angel Wall:** Have you suffered the loss of a child or grandchild? If you would like to honor the memory of your deceased child, please contact the Parish Office to have your child's name added to the Angel Wall in the narthex.

**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. **Please keep in your prayers the nine prolife activists who have been sentenced to multiple year jail terms: Lauren, Heather, Herb, John, Will, Jonathan, Joan, Jean and Paulette,** that they may not despair and that Our Lord will comfort and protect them.

Many states now have **Choose Life specialty license plates.** Money raised from the purchase of these plates goes to support alternatives to abortion such as Pregnancy Care Centers. Perhaps you would like to consider spreading the Gospel of Life as you travel our nation's highways and byways? Visit [dmv.virginia.gov](http://dmv.virginia.gov)



## 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>

### Sunday Night Youth Group is now on Summer Hiatus

Keep an eye on the bulletin and emails for our summer events and opportunities to grow in faith & fellowship!



### St. Raymond's Parish Service Week: June 22-28th

- Open to current 8-12th Graders
- Cost: \$50 for the week! (You will sleep at home.)
- Help with projects around the parish property as well as serving parishioners in a variety of ways-on top of daily Mass, prayer and recreation!
- **For registration instructions & more detailed info go to the website.** <https://bit.ly/ServiceWeek24>

There will also be various opportunities for families & people of all ages to participate throughout the week!

### College Nights for rising College Freshmen:

This summer, the Associates of Saint John Bosco will be hosting four College Nights throughout the Diocese for graduated high-schoolers headed to college in the fall. The purpose of these **free** events is to help teens keep their faith while transitioning into college. Free dinner with registration! Register at: <https://www.asjb.org/student-registration>. Contact [associatesofst.johnbosco@gmail.com](mailto:associatesofst.johnbosco@gmail.com) for more info.

This year's College Nights will be at 7pm

July 2nd at St. Mark (Vienna)

July 11th at St. Theresa (Ashburn)

July 16th at Holy Trinity (Gainesville)

July 23rd at the Basilica of St. Mary (Alexandria)

July 30th at St. Mary's (Fredericksburg)

### Bi-Weekly Monday Gatherings for Ages 18-25!

#### June 17-August 12th from 6:30 /7pm until 8:30pm

Are you between the ages of 18-25? Home from college or just looking for fellowship and opportunities to grow in your faith? Join Fr. Bergida bi-weekly on Monday evenings June 17th through August 12th. The daily family rosary will be at 6:30 on those evenings, so if you want, you could come to the rosary and also have the chance to go to confession or receive spiritual advice from Fr. Bergida, as he'll be in the confession box. We will gather on the back patio (Maurer Room if raining), at 7pm for a social and discussion about Saints and/or Scripture. We will end the evening with Night prayer at 8:15pm in the Church.

#### 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!

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

A quick hello from the new Director of Religious Education (DRE), Virginia Osella...

I am excited to begin my work in our Religious Education Office this week. I will be in touch with information for the upcoming school year, and I look forward to working with our families and catechists.

Don't forget to register for 2024-25 CCD classes! Did you know that students who attend Catholic School or are homeschooling are more than welcome to attend CCD classes at St. Raymond's? All **high school students** of the parish are particularly encouraged to take advantage of our fantastic teachers –and no tests! Give us a call for more information.

**We are in need of the following volunteers for the 2024-2025 academic year:**

#### Sunday:

Grade 2 Assistant Teacher

Grade 4 Teacher

**Monday: Assistant Teachers for Grades 4, 5, 6, and 8**

**Tuesday: RCIC Teacher and Assistant for grades 5-6**

**Mothers' Group:** 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](mailto:mlcastry@gmail.com).

### Mass to Pray for Healing of Victims/Survivors of Abuse.

All of the faithful are invited to attend a Mass to Pray for Healing of Victims/Survivors of Sexual Abuse celebrated by Bishop Burbidge at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Arlington on Thursday, June 20, at 6:30 pm. Reception to follow. Please join us as we gather to pray for the healing of victims/survivors, their loved ones, and for the Church. This event is hosted by the Diocese of Arlington's Office of Victim Assistance. For more information, please call (703) 841-2530.

**Family of Jesus Prayer Group:** Weekly meetings are in the Church on Mondays at 3:00 pm. If you have any prayer requests, please 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.

**Join the Legion of Mary!** The Legion of Mary makes its members better Catholics through prayer, service and evangelization. "Active" members meet weekly for prayer, planning and discussion. In pairs, we perform several hours of apostolic work each week. "Auxiliary" members of the Legion of Mary offer their daily prayers to Our Lady so that she can apply them where they are needed. The Active Legion group meets on Wednesday nights, 6:30 – 8:00pm, in the Maurer Room. If you are interested in joining the Legion or have any questions, please contact Judy Mayer, [jmayer9014@aol.com](mailto:jmayer9014@aol.com), or call / text 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 or [bridgeclub402@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeclub402@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining us.

### Church Persecuted

In the Roman Canon of the Mass (Eucharistic Prayer #1), we venerate the memories of several saints whose names may seem obscure to us. These men, who immediately followed St. Peter to the papacy, were key in continuing the work of the Apostles by not only spreading the good news of the gospels, but also by establishing the governance of the early Church and some of the liturgical practices of today. Significantly, the first 31 men who sat in the Chair of Peter, were martyred for professing their faith.

We know the story of Peter, the first pope, hung upside down on the cross, buried near the Circus Maximus, and whose tomb became the site of the present-day St. Peter's Basilica. But what about some of the other names in the Roman Canon: Linus, Cletus, Clement, and Sixtus I. They were some of the early popes. Linus was the second pope during the time of the martyrdom of Sts. Mark and Luke. Linus was martyred in the year 76. His grave happened to be close to the tomb of Peter.

Cletus was next. He was martyred during the dreadful tenure of the Roman emperor Diocletian in the year 88 and was also buried near Peter. Next came Clement and later in the year 115, came Sixtus.

These were the early days of the Church. Living during the reigns of some of the most ruthless emperors of the Roman Empire, these men were able to carry on the faith, in spite of fearing for their lives during most of their tenure as pope.

As we pray the Roman Canon at Mass, remember these holy men who, along with many others, gave their lives defending and protecting that faith that we practice today. Holy Roman Martyrs, pray for us.

*The Tiber Ran Red, The Age of the Roman Martyrs*, by Frank J. Koran, St. Paul Books & Media, 1969, Chapter 9, "The Martyr Popes".



Get In-Formed!

See the Formed bulletin board by the central doors of the vestibule for additional suggestions.

**For Teens and Young Adults.** Watch *Called: Discover Your Vocation*. This YDisciple series explores how to discover and act on your vocation to marriage, religious life, or the priesthood.



**For Kids.** Watch *Lukas Storyteller: Saint Anthony of Padua* (June 13). Children will learn about this saint and the importance of always telling the truth.

Read *G.K. Chesterton: Apostle of Common Sense*. Author Dale Ahlquist gently introduces the reader to Chesterton and his writing style using several of his great books as the backdrop.

Available for FREE! To set up an account, visit [Formed.org/signup](http://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.

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**Scholarships to Catholic Schools.** St. Raymond's will again offer a **one-time \$2,000 scholarship** for each parish child who is switching from public school (k-12) to Catholic school for the upcoming school year. **For all parish families**, each student in Catholic grade school can receive \$1,000 and Catholic high school students can receive \$2,000. This amount is renewable every year and is subject only to minimal qualification terms. You need to be a parishioner and send a request for the scholarship to Fr. De Celles. Also, 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. 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.

**Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Summer Classes.** Calling All Catechists and Caregivers! Christ the Redeemer Catholic Church is offering the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd faith formation training this summer and next for Level I (ages 3-6), Level II (6-9yrs) and Level III (9-12 yrs) for certification. Contact Kay Kale at [goodshepherdlittlelambs@gmail.com](mailto:goodshepherdlittlelambs@gmail.com) or contact the CTRCC parish office at 703-430-0811 for information.

**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](http://faith.direct/VA64). Thank you for your continued support of our parish family. God bless you.

### LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

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