

***"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

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
Elizabeth Frazee, Secretary
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
Pastor: fdc@straymonds.org
Rel. Ed.: 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

Sunday Morning

8:30-9:00 am and 10:30-11:00 am

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 10 days prior to publication date.

Pastor's Corner

OCTOBER: THE ROSARY AND RESPECT LIFE. October is dedicated to both the Rosary and Pro-Life. So this month, pray the Rosary, especially for the Pro-Life cause.

Respect Life. As we have seen, the defeat of *Roe v. Wade* has not ended the battle for Life. The forces for Death are taking advantage of tactical missteps by Pro-Lifers in the last year and redoubling their efforts and lies to promote the murder of innocent unborn babies. So we must renew our Pro-Life efforts unabated to defeat laws and candidates supporting abortion.

Life Chain Today. Today, as in the past, over 100 St. Raymond parishioners will join other local pro-lifers lining up on the sidewalk of Franconia Road in front of Key Middle School from 2:30 to 3:30 PM to simply stand peacefully and quietly praying, maybe holding a sign, as a public witness to our respect for the dignity of human life. Please join in. Parking is available at the school, and Pro-Life signs will be available.

Synod on Synodality, Part II. The second session on the Vatican's Synod on Synodality begins this Wednesday, October 2, and continues throughout the month of October in Rome. The day before, October 1, the participants will take part in a "Penitential Celebration" in presided over by Pope Francis, where there will be public repentance of some very interesting sins, including: "Sin against creation....against migrants...**Sin of using doctrine as stones to be hurled...Sin against synodality** / lack of listening, communion, and participation of all."

As you know, I'm a synodal skeptic in general, so I'm particularly interested in hearing more about the "sin against synodality," especially since no one has actually given an authoritative cogent definition of "synodality." So I found particularly thought provoking an excellent article by the brilliant **Cardinal Gerhard Müller**, former Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, recently published on *kath.net*. Here are some excerpts:

"At the beginning of the Synod on Synodality, which is no longer just a synod of bishops, but a mixed assembly that by no means represents the entire Catholic Church, there is to be a celebration with an act of penance that culminates in repentance for sins newly invented (by humans!)."

"Sin is, in its intention, man's turning away from God and turning to created goods that are worshipped in his place or in material form like pagan idols. We can also sin against our neighbor if we do not love him for God's sake as ourselves. This also includes selfish exploitation of the earth's natural goods that God provides to all people as a basis for life. Therefore, we can also sin if we use raw materials, money and data exclusively for our own benefit and to the detriment of others..."

"Representatives of the Church of Christ...should act better than its prophetic critics like John the Baptist, who risked his head and said to Herod: 'It is not lawful for you...'. Christ died for our sins and reconciled us with God through his cross and resurrection so that we can live well together in peace and love with our neighbors. God our Father gave us the Decalogue and his Son proclaimed the Beatitudes of the Sermon on the Mount so that in his light we can recognize and do what is good and avoid what is evil."

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

"The catalogue presented with alleged sins against the Church's teachings, which have been misused as projectiles, or against synodality, whatever one may understand by that, reads like a checklist of woke and gender ideology, somewhat laboriously disguised as Christianity, apart from a few misdeeds that cry out to heaven."

"To deceive the gullible, there are also misdeeds that every Christian should take for granted. Those who are naive may be blinded by the arbitrary compilation of real sins against one's neighbor and the justified criticism of theologically absurd inventions of those involved in the synod."

"But there is no sin against the teaching of the Church, which is supposedly used as a weapon, because the teaching of the apostles states that salvation is to be found in no one other than the name of Christ (Acts 4:12). And that is why Luke (Lk 1:1-4), for example, wrote his Gospel so that we can be convinced of the 'trustworthiness of the teaching' in which we have been instructed in saving faith in Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God. And Paul describes the task of the bishops as guarantors of the traditional teaching of the apostles (1 Tim 6). The teaching of the Church is not, as some anti-intellectuals in the episcopate, who like to invoke their pastoral gifts because of their lack of theological education, believe, an academic theory about faith, but the rational presentation of the revealed word of God (1 Peter 3:15), who wants all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth through the one mediator between God and men: the man Christ Jesus, the Word of God his Father made flesh (1 Timothy 2:4f)."

"There is also no sin against a form of synodality that is used as a brainwashing tool to discredit so-called conservatives as yesterday's men and disguised Pharisees, and to make us believe that the progressive ideologies that led to the decline of the Churches in the West in the 1970s are the completion of the reforms of Vatican II that were supposedly stopped by John Paul II and Benedict XVI. The cooperation of all believers in the service of building the Kingdom of God is in the nature of the Church as the People of God, the Body of Christ and the Temple of the Holy Spirit. But one cannot relativize the episcopal office by basing participation in the Synod of Bishops on the common priesthood of all believers and a papal appointment, thereby implicitly pushing aside the sacramentality of the ordained ministry (the order of bishop, priest, deacon) and ultimately relativizing the hierarchical-sacramental constitution of the Church of divine right (Lumen gentium 18-29), which Luther had denied in principle."

"Overall, the great agitators of the synodal paths and the rampant synodalism are more concerned with acquiring influential positions and implementing their un-Catholic ideologies than with renewing faith in Christ in people's hearts. The fact that church institutions in formerly entirely Christian countries are crumbling (empty seminaries, dying religious orders, breaking up marriages and families, mass resignations from the church - several million Catholics in Germany) does not shake them to the core. They stubbornly continue to pursue their agenda, which amounts to the destruction of Christian anthropology, until the last person turns off the lights and the church coffers are empty...."

Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, October 7th

6:30 am Thomas LaMarca +
 8:30 am Larry McKinley +

Tuesday, October 8th

6:30 am Kirsti Tyson +
 8:30 am Anna Dietrich +

Wednesday, October 9th

6:30 am Heather Ruffner
 8:30 am Joseph + & Margaret
 Maines
 7:00 pm George Rouse +

Thursday, October 10th

6:30 am Christopher Anezin
 8:30 am Jonathan & Kara
 Perricone

Friday, October 11th

6:30 am Joseph Healy, Sr +
 8:30 am Vince and Nelly
 Drouillard

Saturday, October 12th

9:00 Joan Carter

Vigil Mass

5:00 pm **Fr. De Celles**
 Francis Zogaib +

Sunday, October 13th

7:00 am **Fr. De Celles**
 Clare Valigore +

9:00 am **Fr. De Celles**
 Parishioners

11:00 am **Msgr. Rippy**
 Lawrence Ehorn +

1:00 pm **Fr. Bergida**
 Jason Brunzman +

**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
 (See the website for Holy Days)

Additional Mass Time and Sunday Confession Times!

from September 2024 to May 2025

Mass-Wednesdays 7:00pm

Extra Sunday Confessions 8:30 am and 10:30 am

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 October!** All are invited to attend.

Family of Jesus Prayer Group: Weekly meetings are in the Church on Mondays 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.

Book Club: The parish Book Club next meets on Thursday, October 10th, at 9:30 AM, in the St Raymond Library to discuss "**Citizens Yet Strangers: Living Authentically Catholic in a Divided America**" by Kenneth Craycraft. 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.

Protecting Our Future: Child Protection & Safety: The Office of Child Protection & Safety was created to assist all parishes and schools in creating a safe environment where our children are free from sexual abuse, physical abuse and neglect. The office provides various services including child abuse prevention training for employees, volunteers, children and youth and criminal background history investigations for employees and volunteers who work with children. For more information about services provided by the Office of Child Protection & Safety as well as diocesan policy regarding the prevention of child abuse, please visit our website at www.arlingtondiocese.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.

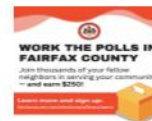
Brian Groth Peter Pacheco

Please pray for the sick of our parish

Glenn Bliss	Debra Henkel	Helen Zogaib
Tom Dietz	Gaudencio Dizon	Nancy Christman
Michael O'Neill	Paul Haynes	Effie Mutumanje
Cindy Laird	Ted Tolpa	Celeste Hyde
Patricia Lewis	Nena Brennan	Jose Lavina
Mai Pham	Serrin Foster	Vivian Poole
Jason Saenz	Donald Trayer	Stanley Ondrusek
Phyllis Zitnik	Ellen Trayer	Helen Estabrooks
Patricia Del Buono	Arlene Pietraszko	Annette Haynes
John Florio	Virginia Cummings	

Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church

Oct 5-6	Porto Charities Second Collection at all Masses
Oct 6	Gift Shop open
Oct 6	Life Chain- 2:30-3:30 Key Middle School
Oct 6-7	Religious Education Classes
Oct 7	RCIA Classes
Oct 7	Family of Jesus Prayer Group
Oct 8	Adult Bible Study
Oct 8	Adult Choir
Oct 8	Legion of Mary 6:30pm
Oct 9	Adoration 9am- 7pm,
Oct 11	Adoration 9am- 3pm
Oct 14	Columbus Day- Mass at 10am



Apply to serve as an election officer for the November 5 election.

Please note:

To work this election, new election officers need to have volunteered before 15 October.

JOIN the CHOIR at St. Raymond's: 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 Holy Days. The repertoire of the choir contains masterpieces of classical liturgical choir music. Singers who have a pleasant voice and sing in pitch are welcome. Enjoy wonderful fellowship, music training and the joy of making uplifting music for the liturgy. Contact Elisabeth Turco at music@straymonds.org or call 703-506-4644.

Legion of Mary invitation Do you want to develop a closer relationship with our Mother Mary and her Son and our Savior, Jesus Christ? The Legion of Mary meets weekly on Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm 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.

WAY MENS RETREAT -Arm yourself for the war being waged against God's desire and design for the human race. **The 26th Annual Christ the King Men's Day of Recollection, directed by Father Francis de Rosa**, will be held on Sat. Nov. 9 from 9:15am-1:15pm at St. Raymond's. There is no charge for this event, **but you must register before Oct. 22 to attend. Donations gratefully accepted. To register go to www.waywomen.com/mensretreat** For more information, contact Robin Maas at rmvlmaas@gmail.com.

The Parish Library is located outside the Parish Hall. Staffed by Parish Volunteers, it is open on Saturdays from 1-5 and Sundays from 10-2. With over 5,000 Catholic items for adults and children in written and AV form, there's something for everyone! Come and see! *"You will not find anyone who is truly striving after his spiritual advancement who is not given to spiritual reading."* St Athanasius



KNIGHTS FOR LIFE. It's 40 days for life. What more can we say at such a time as this? **Support life; BECOME A KNIGHT.** First year free--Just go to <https://www.kofc.org/joinus> or use the QR code below to experience the Knights free for one year: click "Add" and complete the form. Leave the representative code blank, but enter our council #12846 for local information upon registration. Please contact our Deputy Grand Knight, John Larvie, at cell (571) 356-4170 if you have any questions or want to learn more about the many benefits of being a Knight! **ANSWER THE CALL TO LIFE. BECOME A KNIGHT!**



SOCCER CHALLENGE: The annual Knights of Columbus District Soccer Challenge takes place **Sunday, October 20, 2024** on the field behind Holy Spirit School. Holy Spirit School is located at **8800 Braddock Rd. Annandale, VA 22003**. This event is for boys and girls aged 9-14 and will run from **12 pm until 4 pm**. Just arrive during that time and shoot to win! Please contact Gopal Sharma with any questions at 571-451-5595 or at gopal.d.sharma@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events:

9/25-10/23 40 Days for Life
10/14 Columbus Day
10/20 District Soccer Challenge (at Holy Spirit)
10/26 Italian dinner (parish Hall)

2024-25 Adult Bible Study: St. Raymond's will study the Gospel of John on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 to 10:30 A.M. and again on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:00 P.M. (except for holidays) in the Parish Hall, from Tuesday, September 10, 2024 through Tuesday, May 13, 2025.

2024-2025 RCIA/Catholic Update - St. Raymond's offers RCIA classes on Monday evenings (except for Holidays) from 7:00 to 8:15 pm in the Parish Office Classroom (Maurer Room) Those seeking information to understand and/or to enter the Catholic Church, and baptized Catholics seeking additional sacraments are welcomed. Please let us know if you plan to attend, call (703) 440-0535 or email : office@straymonds.org.

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. We are looking to fill several key committee positions, including Secretary, Community Service Chair, Equipment Coordinator, Recruiting Chair, Activities Chair, Ceremonies Coordinator, and Youth Ministries Coordinator. Training and support will be provided. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Joshua Raines at TrailLifeUSA@straymonds.org.

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.

The Gift Shop will be open on Sunday, October 6th. We carry crucifixes, bibles, rosaries, jewelry, and more. Credit cards, checks, and cash welcomed. We are also available by appointment. Submit your request at giftshop@StRaymonds.org or call 703-440-0535.

SAINT RAYMOND'S RESPECTS LIFE

OCTOBER IS RESPECT LIFE MONTH!

And Today is Respect Life Sunday!

Join us for

LIFE CHAIN! One hour of silent peaceful prayer on Sunday October 6 from 2:30-3:30 along the sidewalk in front of and across the street from Key Middle School; 6402 Franconia Road. Park in the school parking lot. **Bring your family and friends – and your Rosary beads!**



"the threat of abortion" remains the "preeminent priority"... for Catholic voters.
USCCB

"Most importantly, we must rededicate ourselves to fervent prayer on behalf of life." Bishop Burbidge urged.

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.

Join us for our peaceful prayerful witness weekend 2-3 Nov. Sign-up sheets are in the narthex. Bring a friend! Questions? Contact Liz at hildebrandseven@gmail.com.

Please continue to pray for those who are imprisoned for peacefully standing up for the lives of the unborn. May Our Lord console them in their suffering.

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.

Tepeyac Pro Life OB/GYN: Transforming Hearts Through Healthcare. 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.**

Have you had an abortion? The Father of Mercy is waiting to welcome you in reconciliation. For confidential inquiries, contact **Project Rachel Ministry:** (703) 841-2504 or 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

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 October 6th

Youth Group meets in the Parish Hall. All are invited!

3:30-5pm Junior High Youth Group — Grades 7 & 8

5-6:30pm 7-12th Grade CCD

6:30-8pm High School Youth Group — Grades 9-12

PARISH-WIDE CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!!

*Breakfast Main Dish Donations Needed

Would you be willing to provide a breakfast main dish for one or two of our Friday breakfasts this year? We need volunteers to help ensure our Friday Mass & Breakfast teens & priests are fed. Details and can be found on the signup <https://bit.ly/FRIDAYRSVP> If you have additional questions or prefer talking to someone, please do not hesitate to contact our volunteer breakfast coordinator, Domenique Arcabasso at domarch20@gmail.com or call her at 571-632-9957.

*Young Adult Ladies: we need one more young woman to help with high school youth group on Sunday evenings from 6:30-8pm. Please, pray and ask God if this might be something He is calling you to do. Contact Jeanne for more information.

****NO Youth Groups on Columbus Day 10/13. See you 10/20***

6:30am Fri. Morning Mass & Breakfast every Friday in October

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 by Wed. we can coordinate our volunteers to drive you to school by 8am!** <https://bit.ly/FRIDAYRSVP> If not, you can show up for Mass and have your parent drive you to school after breakfast Either way, RSVPs help us to know how much food to prepare.

High School "Bible Study" & Optional 6:30pm Rosary

**** High School Bible Study will NOT meet this Friday 10/11****

7-8pm Friday, October 18th (Library in parish hall)

Grow in faith and meet new people at the same time! BYOB (Bring Your Own Bible)...and a friend! Everyone is invited to join us for the parish family rosary at 6:30pm too!

Newman Guide Virtual College Fair

Wednesday, Oct. 9th from 1-3pm and 7-9pm

Students will have the chance to visit virtual college "booths," learn about unique scholarship opportunities, attend "live" sessions on the difference between Catholic and secular education, and more! High school students, their parents, and school leaders can register <https://bit.ly/septcollege>

High School Teens: 2 Hikes over COLUMBUS DAY WEEKEND Permission Slips due Wednesday 10/9

Saturday, October 12th (9am-12:30pm) at Huntley Meadows

This hike is open to all 9-12th graders. It is a 1.8 mile easy, flat, loop, mix of gravel, paved & boardwalk. Hike itself will take about an hour. Starts with 9am Mass. Compliant adult chaperones/drivers are needed. Please contact Jeanne if you are willing to chaperone/drive.

Monday, October 14th (10am-3pm/5pm)

Father/Son Columbus Day Hike with Fr. Bergida

This hike is only open to high school men and their dads. Start with 10am Mass, then hike the First Manassas Trail Loop 1 with Fr. Bergida (5.2 miles easy/moderate) with option to continue on and hike Second Manassas Trail Loop 2 (6.6 miles, easy) with Father Bergida.

Permissions slips for both hikes are online <http://bit.ly/YAforms> as well as in the magazine racks next to the youth apostolate bulletin boards by the church doors. **Permission Slips are due Wednesday 10/9.**

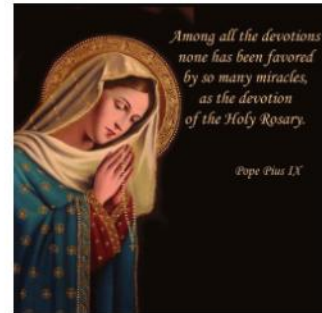
Jeanne Sause

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



October is the Month of the Holy Rosary!

Students will be praying a decade of the rosary together at the beginning of each class during October. We will keep all of your families' special intentions in mind!

PLEASE participate in the Daily Family Rosary in our church, Monday - Friday at 6:30 pm and/or Saturday and Sunday after 9 am Mass during the month of October and beyond! See information in this week's bulletin about Rosary recitation and other prayer opportunities for your family.

There will be no CCD classes October 13 or 14 in observance of the Columbus Day holiday.



This weekend, October 5-6, we'll have a second collection for Special Kids/Special Needs that will benefit Porto Charities, a non-profit organization dedicated to increasing access to diocesan Catholic schools for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities. All proceeds will go directly to establish and advance inclusive education programs in Catholic Schools throughout the Diocese of Arlington for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Please consider donating to this important collection at Mass or online at: <https://www.portocharities.org/2ndcollection>

OCDS Silent Retreat - Friday October 25-Sunday, October, 27, 2024-Topic: "St. John of the Cross: Transformation of the Spiritual Life". The OCDS Community of St. Therese of the Child Jesus, in Annandale, VA is pleased to invite you to a weekend retreat at the beautiful Priest Field Pastoral Center in Kearneysville, WV. We are extremely fortunate to have the Rev. Steven Payne, OCD, Chair of Carmelite Studies at Catholic University, as our Retreat Director. For more information please contact: Veronica Royal at veronicaroyal@icloud.com or Suzanne Koucheravy at skoucheravy56@gmail.com.

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.

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 if you are interested in joining us.

8th Grade Students Catholic Schools Placement Testing: For those interested in attending Catholic High Schools in the Diocese of Arlington. Test date: Sat. Dec. 7th, 2024. Students must register on-line on the high school's website by the registration deadline. The testing fee should accompany the registration.

CHURCH PERSECUTED

October 7 is the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, previously known as Our Lady of Victory. It celebrates what some historians call the largest sea battle up to its time and the most significant battle in the area of the Mediterranean Sea until the 20th century world wars. The defeat of the Ottoman Empire (Muslims) at the bay of Lepanto on October 7, 1571, marked the farthest of their expanse into Europe.

The battle had been poetically portrayed by G. K. Chesterton's, *Lepanto*. <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/47917/Lepanto>, and carefully described by Michael Novak in his *National Review* article of October 7, 2014, "How the 1571 Battle of Lepanto saved Europe" <https://catholiceducation.org/en/culture/how-the-1571-battle-of-lepanto-saved-europe.html>.

In the spring of 1571, the commander of the Muslim fleet set out to destroy Christian navies in the Eastern Mediterranean, and then conquer the remaining area. Pope Pius V was aware of the dangerous situation and called on all of Europe to pray the rosary for victory. He named Don Juan of Austria, a 22-year-old admiral, to lead the Christian fleet, which comprised of several nations. Assembling the fleet was a feat in itself, as Martin Luther split the Christian world in 1517 with the Protestant Reformation. Don Juan sailed toward Lepanto with 250 ships as Ali Pasha, the Muslim commander was anchored in a protected harbor with around 350 ships.

The night before the battle, Don Juan asked all the Christian fleet to spend the night in prayer as he understood the enormity of his task. The battle ensued. In the heat of the battle the wind changed directions and gave the advantage to the Christians and destroyed the Turkish fleet, but also freed many Christian slaves who were powering them. As Chesterton wrote:

*Breaking of the hatches up and bursting of the holds,
Thronging of the thousands up that labour under sea
White for bliss and blind for sun and stunned for liberty.
Vivat Hispania! Domino Gloria!
Don John of Austria has set his people free!*

FORMED®

Get In-Formed!

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

Watch Sacred Art: Our Lady of the Rosary. Enjoy this discussion between scholars of the St. Augustine Institute on the depictions of Our Lady of the Rosary (Oct 6) in sacred art.



Watch Faustina and the Spread of Mercy. This fourth episode of Fr. Michael Gaitley's program focuses on St. Faustina (Oct 5) and the message of Divine Mercy given to her directly by our Lord to share with the world.

For KIDS! **Watch The Angel God Gave Me.** This motion book is a sweet story from the *Brother Francis Storytime* series about a child's guardian angel (Oct 2).

Available for FREE! To set up an account, visit Formed.org/signup and select our parish. Questions? Need help? Email us at: formed@straymonds.org

**Angelus Academy**

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

There are limited spots available in some grades for the 2024-25 school year, but spaces are going fast!

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

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.

Junior Legion of Mary. Children between the ages of 8 – 12+ at St. Raymond's who have received their First Holy Communion and parents seeking an extracurricular activity that enriches a young person's spiritual life and engages them in age-appropriate spiritual works of mercy under the spiritual direction of Father Bergida, please consider joining the Junior Legion of Mary. Meetings will be every Tuesday, 4:00-5:00pm, in the rectory Maurer Room. Two adult members of the Legion (Virtus certified) lead the meetings. Parents are welcome to attend / participate. Please email Patty Miller, pamiller35@gmail.com, or call / text her at: C - 703-455-9327.

Seton Jr.-Sr. High School in Manassas, VA, located at 9314 Maple St., will hold its annual Open House on **Sunday, November 3 from 2-4 pm**. Formal presentations begin at 2 p.m. followed by mini-classes, tours, and a reception. For additional information, please visit www.setonschool.net/admissions or email admissionsassociate@setonschool.net.

We are Looking for Families for our **Christmas Giving Tree**. Each year, St. Raymond's "adopts" families who need help with Christmas. If your family, or someone you know could use help providing gifts for their children, please let the parish office know. The information is kept completely confidential! The office phone number is 703-440-0535. Please apply by October 29th.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

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Family Assistance	\$	199.00
Maintenance Fund	\$	815.00
OLOR	\$	1,565.00



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