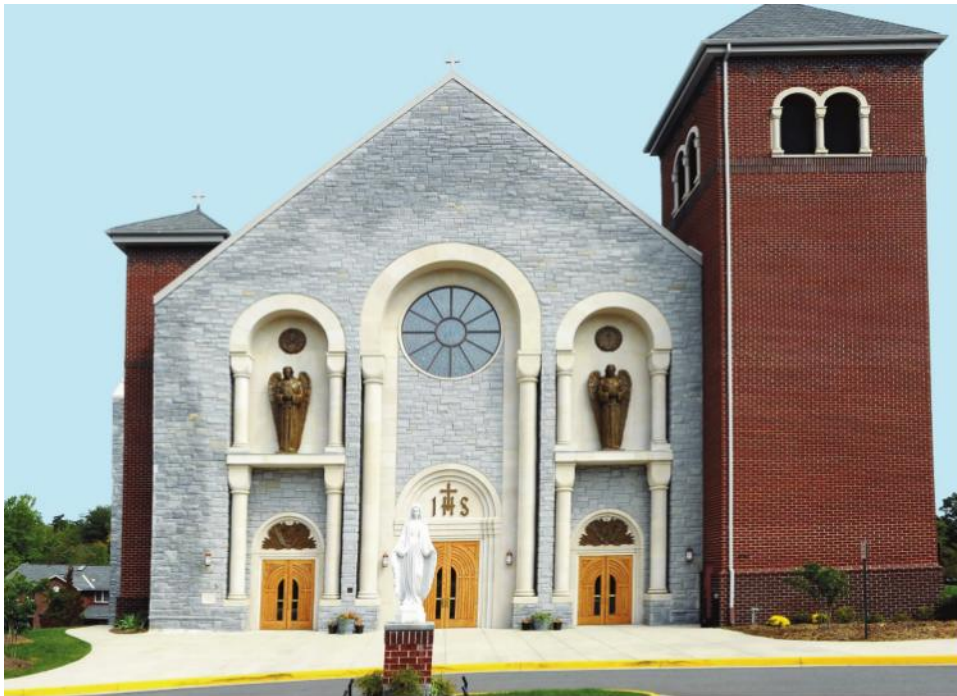


***"May the God of Love and Peace Set Your Heart At Rest"  
St. Raymond***



## ***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  
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](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  
**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](mailto:bulletin@straymonds.org) 10 days prior to publication date.

## Pastor's Corner

**PRESIDENT-ELECT TRUMP.** I write this after staying up late into Tuesday night (Wednesday early morning) watching the election returns, and it seems we have a new President, Donald John Trump. For the first time in 132 years a once-defeated President has been re-elected to the Presidency (Grover Cleveland being the only other to do this, elected in 1884, defeated in 1888 and re-elected in 1892). But Cleveland's re-election was nothing like Trump's—love him or hate him, this has got to be the biggest political comeback in American History.

Let us pray for our incoming President. May the Lord grant him wisdom, courage, true charity and protection—love for God and neighbor.

And let us pray for all who are disappointed with this result, especially those tempted to respond with violence. In Christian Charity, remember: *“love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you”* (Matthew 5: 44).

**NOVEMBER: PRAYING FOR THE DEAD.** November is a month in which Catholics are called to particularly pray for all the souls in Purgatory.

Many Catholics nowadays wrongly think Purgatory is an outdated remnant from the Middle Ages, even though Christian belief in Purgatory is rooted in Jewish doctrine (2 Maccabees 12), and was well established in the early Church. Many other Catholics, in their grief, prefer to think of their departed loved ones as already being in Heaven, and can't bear the thought that they might be in Purgatory.

But the doctrine of Purgatory is not something to fear, because it is a doctrine of God's mercy, and reflects the reality that none of us is perfect. All of us sin or cling to things of this world—however small or seemingly insignificant. But Scripture tells us “nothing imperfect shall enter” into Heaven (Rev. 21:27)—and rightly so, since Heaven is about perfect happiness, perfect love, etc... Given this, and confident in Our Lord's desire for all to be with Him in Heaven, Christians have always believed that between death and Heaven there is a purification, or *purgation*, where we're cleansed from all imperfections, i.e., made perfect. This state, or “place,” we call Purgatory.

Now, we must remember that Purgatory is NOT *anything* like Hell, and all the Souls in Purgatory are good and “worthy” of eternal joy in Heaven—we call them the “Holy Souls.” So thinking of them as in Purgatory is not an insult but praise. Moreover, these Souls are certain they are going to Heaven, so they are filled with joy beyond anything experienced on earth.

But we must also remember that there is suffering in Purgatory. The simplest way for many of us to understand this is to think of the suffering related to change. All change is difficult. Consider the person who is trying to lose weight, or exercising for an athletic competition. The effort involved in change is painful, but as you see progress you are also invigorated and happy, seeing your goal approach.

Even so, since 1) Purgatory involves pain, and 2) we want our beloved dead to swiftly enter the joys of Heaven, we should never neglect praying for them. And if they are already in Heaven, no prayer is wasted, since every prayer is an act of love, and they hear each prayer as telling how much we love them.

So in love, let us pray for our beloved dead this

month, and for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, especially the “most abandoned,” the souls who no one else remembers to pray for.

“Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls, and all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace.”

**Offering Masses: “Mass Intentions.”** The greatest prayer Christians can offer is the Sacrifice of the Mass. We remember that at each Mass the one and only Sacrifice of the Cross on Calvary is made present. This Sacrifice of Jesus was and is the greatest prayer ever offered: God the Son's great offering to the Father for the expiation of sins and salvation of the world. Because of this, the graces that flow from the Mass are infinite and that grace produces various “fruits,” or benefits: impetratory fruits (spiritual and temporal benefits), propitiatory fruits (forgiveness of sins), and satisfactory fruits (remission of temporal punishment).

The Tradition teaches that these fruits flow to: 1) the whole Church (“general fruits”), 2) those participating in the particular Mass (“special fruits”), to the priest himself (“personal fruits”), and to those for whom the priest is offering the Mass (“ministerial fruits”).

This last type of fruit, ministerial, is what we usually mean when we speak the priest “offering a Mass” for a particular intention, or when the Mass Intention” is announced in the bulletin or at Mass. (Note: contrary to what some seem to think, when this “Mass Intention” is for a person(s), this is not meant to publicly honor that person, nor is the congregation required to pray for the person. The Mass honors God; it bears fruit in us, including the person it is offered for.)

These ministerial fruits have infinite power—they flow from the infinite perfect Sacrifice of the Cross. But they are limited by the disposition of the person who receives them. So, for example, when you receive the Sacrament of Penance, you receive all the grace you need to never sin again, but you benefit from that grace only to the extent to cooperate with it, or are “open to it.” Grace isn't magic, that immediately turns a sinner into a saint. Grace is a gift, that if you chose to use will help you become a saint.

So, when a priest offers the Mass for John, John receives infinite graces, but they are only beneficial to him if he is disposed to let them benefit him. So, if John has his heart set on sinning, but has a small opening in his heart to God, then he will benefit from the infinite fruits of the Mass only a small amount.

The same is true for **the Souls in Purgatory**. So, when a Mass is offered for a Jane in Purgatory, the Mass will benefit her only to the extent she is purified and is open to that fruit. Because we understand Purgation as sort of a process of purifying and that some souls need more purification than others, the Soul in Purgatory benefits from ministerial fruits of the Mass in a powerful but limited way: they are not yet *perfectly* open to them, but they are more and more perfectly open to them. So that when multiple Masses are offered for a Soul, he/she will benefit more and more as he/she becomes more and more perfectly disposed to the fruits.

So, “offering Masses” for the dead is absolutely the best way we can help them in their purification/perfection.

*Oremus pro invicem, patria, defunctorumque. Fr. De Celles*



**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Monday, November 11th**

10:00 am Paul Rinn +

**Tuesday, November 12th**

6:30 am Jeanne Marie

Seiberling +

8:30 am Anna Marie Choi +

**Wednesday, November 13th**

6:30 am Mike Malakowski +

8:30 am Freddie Kemp +

7:00 pm Celebrant's Intentions

**Thursday, November 14th**

6:30 am Jack Menotti +

8:30 am Sofi Rae Hills

**Friday, November 15th**

6:30 am Sheridan Reaver +

8:30 am Joseph Healy, Jr.

**Saturday, November 16th**

9:00 Randal Crawford +

**Vigil Mass**

5:00 pm **Fr. De Celles**

Carl Montoya +

**Sunday, November 17th**

7:00 am **Msgr. Rippy**

Grace Ebaku

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

Parishioners

11:00 am **Fr. Horkan**

Kyung Soon Dorothea

Hwang +

1:00 pm **Fr. Bergida**

Family of Jesus

Prayer Group

**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)

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

**Men's Prayer Group:** On the first and third Saturdays of each month a group of men meet in the parish hall to pray and read the Scriptures. **Our next meeting will be November 16th.** For more information, call Dave Wilson, 703-966-5327 or email [maryndavew7705@gmail.com](mailto:maryndavew7705@gmail.com)

**Book Club:** The parish Book Club next meets on Thursday, November 14th, at 9:30 AM, in the St Raymond Library to discuss "Catherine of Siena" by Sigrid Undset. 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).

**ADORERS NEEDED-** Friday Adorers needed at 11am, 12pm and 1pm. Please consider spending an hour with Our Lord during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. If you are interested, please call the parish office at 703-440-0535.

**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)**

**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	Jose Lavina
Patricia Lewis	Nena Brennan	Stanley Ondrusek
Mai Pham	Serrin Foster	Helen Estabrooks
Jason Saenz	Donald Trayer	Annette Haynes
Phyllis Zitnik	Ellen Trayer	William McGowan
Patricia Del Buono	Arlene Pietraszko	Josephine Samudre
John Florio	Virginia Cummings	Elizabeth Mendelson

**Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church**

Nov 9-10	Wreaths Across America-AHG
Nov 9-10	Keep Christ in Christmas Card Sales
Nov 10	CCD classes- No classes on the 11th.
Nov 11	RCIA class
Nov 11	Veteran's Day, 10 am Mass-Parish Office Closed
Nov 11	Family of Jesus Prayer Group
Nov 12	Adult Bible Study
Nov 12	Adult Choir
Nov 12	Junior Legion of Mary 4-5pm
Nov 12	Legion of Mary 6:30pm
Nov 13	Adoration 9am- 7pm
Nov 14	Book Club
Nov 15	Adoration 9am- 3pm
Nov 16	Blood Drive 7am- noon, Parish Hall
Nov.16-17	Coats for Kids
Nov. 17	Pie Sale Deadline

**Sponsor a Wreath & Support Our Troop!**

Would you like to honor veterans AND souls this month? Get two-for-one by sponsoring a wreath that the American Heritage Girls of St. Raymond's will be personally laying at the US Soldiers' and Airmen's Home Cemetery next month! Many of the graves date back to the Civil War, so it's a beautiful way to remember those who served who have likely since been forgotten. <https://tinyurl.com/VA0683WAA>



**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.

**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*

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

**KNIGHTS RETIRE THE COLORS**

**RESPECTFULLY**, because Knights are true patriots. As George Washington explained, "I presume that your fellow-citizens will not forget the patriotic part which you took in the accomplishment of their Revolution, and the establishment of their government; or the important assistance which they received from a nation in which the Roman Catholic faith is professed." Catholic patriotism extends one's duty to honor one's father and mother to the legitimate authority of the state. This month, the Knights Fourth Degree's Marian Assembly, founded on patriotism, collects expired flags in **boxes you will find in the narthex** of our Church for retirement at St. Lawrence Parish on November 16<sup>th</sup>. **Remember to add your expired flags to these boxes**, so that, rather than tossing them to the trash, we may honor them with respectful retirement. Again, knighthood is patriotism, so **BECOME A KNIGHT**. The first year is free of dues--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 AND JOIN NOW!**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- 11/2-3-Dec.14 "Keep Christ in Christmas" Christmas Cards Sales  
 11/16 Blood Drive  
 11/16 (St. Lawrence Parish) Flag Retirement Ceremony (10:00 a.m.)  
 11/16-17 Coats for Kids  
 11/18 (Parish Hall) 3d Degree Exemplification for new Knights

**November 16th Blood Drive.** The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a blood drive on behalf of Inova Blood Donor Services on Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup> here in the St. Raymond's parish hall from 7 am to noon. You may sign up online at [www.inovabloodsaves.org](http://www.inovabloodsaves.org) or in the narthex after all Masses this weekend. If you have any questions or difficulty signing up, please contact Mark Maslyn of our parish at 202-679-3293 or by email at: [mam7253@msn.com](mailto:mam7253@msn.com).

**Coats for Kids!** The Knights of Columbus will be collecting new Coats for Kids after all Masses Nov. 16-17. All new coats will be donated to local charities. Monetary donations will also be accepted and will be used to purchase new coats.

**"Keep Christ in Christmas" Christmas Cards** – Every weekend thru Dec. 14, the Knights of Columbus will be offering religious Christmas cards in the Narthex after all the Masses.

**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](mailto:jmayer9014@aol.com), or 703-627-7320.

**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).

**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).



**THANK YOU** to all those who prayed and sacrificed during the fall campaign. You may never know the positive impact you made, but your efforts brought the Light of Christ to a dark place. May hearts and minds continue to turn towards the Lord of Life's abiding love.

*Some may remember but others may not....* that early on Sunday morning, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010, a newborn baby girl was discovered in a gym bag in our church parking lot. By the grace of God, Sofi was in good health and adopted into a loving Christian family. Sofi is now a lovely young lady celebrating her 14<sup>th</sup> birthday. Please offer a prayer in thanksgiving for Sofi's life, for the well-being of the woman who knew enough to bravely entrust her baby to our parish and for Sofi's family. *Life, what a beautiful gift!*

**A MOM'S Peace** is a Lay Apostolate for Mothers of Miscarried and Stillborn Souls. By discretely supporting mothers with burial, bereavement and remembrance programs, they lovingly guide families through difficult decisions in the immediate wake of loss. A Mom's Peace exists to fulfill the corporal and spiritual works of mercy "bury the dead" and "comfort the sorrowful." **Kara Palladino will be available in the narthex after the 7pm Mass on Wednesday 13 Nov to visit with you and answer questions.**

Hosea Initiative **Raise Your Voice Gala** honoring Bishop Joseph Strickland, Friday December 6 at The Bellevue Center, Chantilly. For more info, visit [hosea4you.org](http://hosea4you.org).

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](http://abortionpillreversal.com).

**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.**

**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](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)



### 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>



Actual photos of pies entirely made  
from scratch by our teens!

### Pie Sale Fundraiser for Youth Apostolate

Would you, your family, friends, and/or neighbors enjoy a fresh, delicious homemade (by our teens!) pie this Thanksgiving? Back by popular demand, our youth apostolate will be hand making about 70 apple pies & 70 pumpkin pies ready for pick-up Nov. 23-24, just in time for Thanksgiving! All proceeds support our Youth Apostolate—from our weekly meeting supplies & snacks to trips like Mount 2000 and Steubenville.. **Pre-Orders are due November 17th, unless we sell out sooner!** Forms for pre-order can be found on youth bulletin boards & in this week's bulletin insert. Thank you, in advance, for supporting our parish youth!

### Help Make 140+ Pies!

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

**Jr. High Pie Assembly: Thursday Nov. 21 from 6-8:30pm**

**High School Pie Assembly: Friday Nov. 22 from 6-9pm**

We need at least 10 youth AND 3 compliant adults to help out each evening. Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/makepie2024>

\*Next week Bible Study will meet 7-8pm THURSDAY 11/21 so it does not interfere with pie making.

### Youth Group & CCD, Sunday November 10th

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

### 6:30am Fri. Morning Mass & Breakfast Nov. 15 & 22

7-12th graders are invited to join Fr. Bergida & Fr. Horkan for 6:30am Mass & breakfast in the hall after. **RSVP** to help us gauge how much food we need. And **RSVP by Wed. if you need a ride to school after.** <https://bit.ly/FRIDAYRSVP>

### Meatless Breakfast Dish Donations Needed

Would you be willing to provide a breakfast main dish for one or two of our Friday breakfasts this year? Details and can be found on the sign up <https://bit.ly/FRIDAYRSVP>

### MOUNT2000 Eucharistic Retreat (Feb. 7-9)

**Open to all high school students!** Mount 2000 is a weekend Eucharistic retreat that includes Mass, Adoration, Confession, exciting speakers and musicians, and breakout sessions led by seminarians. The total cost for the retreat is \$130. For more information, visit [mount2000.com](http://mount2000.com) If you are interested in attending, email Jeanne for the proper registration link for our group. \*We will leave after school, at 4pm on Friday.\*

### High School "Bible Study"

**7-8pm Friday, November 15th (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!

\*Next week Bible Study will meet 7-8pm THURSDAY 11/21\*

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

### Mass Attendance Cards: Parents of students in grades

**2, 7 and 8** are reminded that your child **should be submitting a Mass attendance card** every time they attend **weekend Mass** (Saturday vigil / Sunday Masses) and **Holy Days of Obligation**. They should write their first and last name as well as the date and time of the Mass they attend and place it in the collection basket! If your child attends Mass at a parish other than St. Raymond's, please pick up a bulletin from that parish and ask a priest or deacon to sign the bulletin after Mass. Your child should write their name on the bulletin and then drop it off in the RE Office at your earliest convenience.

**Looking ahead:** There is **no class on Nov. 11 in observance of Veterans Day**, but there **IS class on Sunday, Nov. 10.**



### 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](mailto:TrailLifeUSA@straymonds.org).

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students Catholic Schools Placement Testing:

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

### Shadow a Wolf for a Day! (Active through May 2025)

September 2024 - May 2025

Shadow Days at John Paul are officially open for this year! Do you have an 8th-10th grader who is interested in seeing what it is like to be a JP student? Sign them up for a Shadow Day visit! For registration and more details, please visit: [https://jpthegreat.schooladminonline.com/portal/new\\_inquiry](https://jpthegreat.schooladminonline.com/portal/new_inquiry)

**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.

**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.

**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.

## CHURCH PERSECUTED

This is the time of year when we begin seeing lists of books relevant to various issues. Religious persecution and the writings of priests, bishops, cardinals, and the laity who are persecuted deserve attention. Here are a few books of many which show the humility, bravery, patience, and peace of those who were persecuted for their religious beliefs. They are in no particular order:

*A Man for All Seasons*, a two-act play by Robert Bolt depicting the trial and beheading of St. Thomas More. Vintage Press, 1960. This classic which is being performed at Bishop Ireton High School in Alexandria on November 15, 16, 17, 22, and 23. Tickets on line at <https://bihs.booktix.com/dept/Main/e/AMFAS/pal/NRPGNdnrCUC2UFd6W6mURj2jM>

*With God in Russia* by Father Walter J. Ciszek, S.J. depicting his 23 years from 1940 to 1963 as a prisoner of the Soviet KGB. The American Press, 1964.

*The Miracle of Hope – Political Prisoner, Prophet of Peace*, the life of Cardinal Francis Xavier Nguyen Van Thuan, a political prisoner of the Vietcong in his homeland of Vietnam, Pauline Books and Media, 2003.

*The Catholic Martyrs of the Twentieth Century – A Comprehensive World History*, by Robert Royal, Crosswords Publishing Company, 2000. (Note – Contained here are recent Catholic martyrs as Royal covers the landscape from Mexico to the Soviet Union, Spain, Nazi Germany, Martyrs of Eastern and Center Europe, EL Salvador, China, Korea, Vietnam, and Africa.

*Prison Journal, Vol I, II, and III* The journal of the late George Cardinal Pell during his false imprisonment in Australia from February 27, 2019, until the Australian high court overturned his conviction on April 7, 2020.

*The Church Under Attack Five Hundred Years that Spite the Church and Scattered the Flock* - by former parishioner Diane Moczar, Sophia Institute Press 2013.

**Any of the gospel writings of the crucifixion and death of Our Lord Jesus Christ.** Matt 26-26, Mark 14-15, Luke 22-23, John 18-19.

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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.

**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](mailto:pamiller35@gmail.com), or call / text her at: C - 703-455-9327.

**St. Martin of Porres is looking for Volunteers!** We are looking for volunteers to help collect items from the Narthex and deliver them to the Springfield Resource Center. If you are interested in helping, please contact the parish office at 703-440-0535.

## Last Week's Collection

Offertory	\$ 18,293.00
Family Assistance	\$ 1,793.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 1,578.00
OLOR	\$ 1,791.00
All Saints	\$ 5,393.00

The Second Collection this weekend is for Retired Priests




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