

THEY WERE ALL FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

**"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
7:00 pm on Wednesdays
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
Macrose Naduvilekunnel, Business Manager
Elizabeth Frazee, Secretary
Catherine Hansen, Intern
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 upcoming school year.

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

PENTECOST: VENI SANCTE SPIRITU! This Sunday's readings tell us that on the first Christian Pentecost the Holy Spirit descended on the early Christians with "a noise like a strong driving wind," and appeared like "tongues as of fire." After this they "began to speak in different tongues" so that the people gathered in Jerusalem "from every nation under heaven" could hear them "speaking in his own language."

That same Holy Spirit descended on each of us in Baptism, and came again to strengthen ("confirm"—see below) His gifts in us in our Confirmations. By the baptismal indwelling of the Spirit we were united to the Divine life of Jesus Christ, and in Confirmation we were given the gifts to live the fullness of the faith amidst the great challenges of world. These gifts help us individually to get to heaven, by loving God and our neighbor, but they are also meant to help us proclaim the Gospel to all those around us, just as the first Christians did.

And the Holy Spirit does not merely come to individuals, He comes and dwells in the Church as One Body of Christ. Because of this no gift of the Holy Spirit is meant merely for personal enhancement separate from the Church, or contrary to the unity of the Church.

Let us pray to Christ and His Father, to renew in us the powerful presence of their Holy Spirit within each of us and within the whole Church. And let us ask the Holy Spirit to teach us to use His gifts to become the Christians we are called to be.

The Sacrament of Confirmation. The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us:

"1288 From that time on the apostles, in fulfillment of Christ's will, imparted to the newly baptized by the laying on of hands the gift of the Spirit that completes the grace of Baptism. ...The imposition of hands is rightly recognized by the Catholic tradition as the origin of the sacrament of Confirmation, which in a certain way perpetuates the grace of Pentecost in the Church.

"1289 Very early, the better to signify the gift of the Holy Spirit, an anointing with perfumed oil (chrism) was added to the laying on of hands. This anointing highlights the name 'Christian,' which means 'anointed' and derives from that of Christ himself whom God 'anointed with the Holy Spirit.'

"1293 In treating the rite of Confirmation, it is fitting to consider the sign of anointing and what it signifies and imprints: a spiritual seal.

"Anointing, in Biblicalsymbolism, is rich in meaning: oil is a sign of abundance and joy; it cleanses (anointing before and after a bath) and limbers (the anointing of athletes and wrestlers); oil is a sign of healing, since it is soothing to bruises and wounds; and it makes radiant with beauty, health, and strength.

"1294 Anointing with oil has all these meanings in the sacramental life. The pre-baptismal anointing with the oil of catechumens signifies cleansing and strengthening; the anointing of the sick expresses healing and comfort. The post-baptismal anointing with sacred chrism in Confirmation and ordination is the sign of consecration. By Confirmation Christians...share more completely in the mission of Jesus Christ and the fullness of the Holy Spirit with which he is filled, so that their lives may give off 'the aroma of Christ.'

"1295 By this anointing the confirmand receives the 'mark,' the seal of the Holy Spirit. A seal is a symbol of a person, a sign of personal authority, or ownership of an object. Hence soldiers were marked with their leader's seal and slaves with their master's. A seal authenticates a juridical act or

document and occasionally makes it secret.

"1296 Christ himself declared that he was marked with his Father's seal. Christians are also marked with a seal: 'It is God who establishes us with you in Christ and has commissioned us; he has put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.' This seal of the Holy Spirit marks our total belonging to Christ, our enrollment in his service for ever, as well as the promise of divine protection in the great eschatological trial.

"1300 ...In the Latin rite, 'the sacrament of Confirmation is conferred through the anointing with chrism on the forehead, which is done by the laying on of the hand, and through the words: ...Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit....

"1302 It is evident from its celebration that the effect of the sacrament of Confirmation is the special outpouring of the Holy Spirit as once granted to the apostles on the day of Pentecost.

"1303 From this fact, Confirmation brings an increase and deepening of baptismal grace: it roots us more deeply in the divine filiation which makes us cry, 'Abba! Father!'; it unites us more firmly to Christ; it increases the gifts of the Holy Spirit in us; it renders our bond with the Church more perfect; it gives us a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith by word and action as true witnesses of Christ, to confess the name of Christ boldly, and never to be ashamed of the Cross: 'Recall then that you have received the spiritual seal, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of right judgment and courage, the spirit of knowledge and reverence, the spirit of holy fear in God's presence.'[St. Ambrose]

"1304 Like Baptism which it completes, Confirmation is given only once, for it too imprints on the soul an indelible spiritual mark, the 'character,' which is the sign that Jesus Christ has marked a Christian with the seal of his Spirit by clothing him with power from on high so that he may be his witness....

"1306 Every baptized person not yet confirmed can and should receive the sacrament of Confirmation...'...for without Confirmation and Eucharist, Baptism is certainly valid and efficacious, but Christian initiation remains incomplete...."

CHARLOTTE NONSENSE. Many of you have asked me what I think about Bishop Michael Martin's proposed restrictions on the traditional approaches to Mass, including the "Novus Ordo" Masses, in his Diocese of Charlotte, NC. All I can say is the leaked proposal indicates an ignorance of the laws and teaching of the Church, especially of Vatican II. If I were priest in Charlotte I'd ignore such restrictions because they are simply illegal and contrary to right reason. And I'd pray for my poorly formed bishop.

NEW CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL. Back in December I mentioned that I am involved in the foundation of a new independent Catholic High School, part of the Chesterton Schools Network of about 70 schools which follow a "Classical" curriculum. This new school, **Chesterton Academy of Christ the King**, has been moving forward rapidly and now **plans to open in the Fall of 2026**, hopefully leasing space **at St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Alexandria**. Information sessions will be held throughout this summer. Visit ChestertonTheKing.org and this week's bulletin insert.

Also, please consider giving to its first fundraising campaign--the Founding Families Fundraising Campaign--to help offset the costs associated with these activities.

Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles

MASS INTENTIONS

<p>Monday, June 9th 6:30 am Eriberto S. Perez + 8:30 am Joseph + & Elaine Perricone</p> <p>Tuesday, June 10th 6:30 am Eliot Benson + 8:30 am Martha Bell +</p> <p>Wednesday, June 11th 6:30 am Magdalena Benson + 8:30 am Sophia Gonzales +</p> <p>Thursday, June 12th 6:30 am John & Glen Bliss 8:30 am George & Holly Bliss</p> <p>Friday, June 13th 6:30 am Raymond Troup 8:30 am David Berger +</p>	<p>Saturday, June 14th 9:00 am Anne Hansen</p> <p>Vigil Mass 5:00 pm Fr. Horkan Romeo Baclig +</p> <p>Sunday, June 15th 7:00 am Msgr. Rippy Natalie Butler</p> <p>9:00 am Fr. Bergida Parishioners</p> <p>11:00 am Fr. Horkan David & Dominique Murray</p> <p>1:00 pm Fr. Bergida Father's Day Triduum +</p>
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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 Elizabeth Archer

Please pray for the sick of our parish

<p>Glenn Bliss Tom Dietz Michael O'Neill Cindy Laird Patricia Lewis Mai Pham Jason Saenz Phyllis Zitnik John Florio Carolina Baker</p>	<p>Debra Henkel Gaudencio Dizon Paul Haynes Nena Brennan Serrin Foster Donald Trayer Ellen Trayer Arlene Pietraszko Virginia Cummings Mary M. Dixon Edward J. Susank</p>	<p>Helen Zogaib Helen Estabrooks Annette Haynes Beth Fitzgibbons Jean Keegan Margaret M. Hill Bill Roche Florence Miller Robert Petitti Richard Buettner</p>
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Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church

- June 9 Family of Jesus Prayer Group
- June 10 Junior Legion of Mary 4:15-5:15pm Maurer Room
- June 10 Legion of Mary 6:30pm Library
- June 11 Adoration 9am-7pm
- June 12 Bridge Club
- June 13 Adoration Fri. 9am- 3pm
- June 13 Cursillo 7 pm
- June 15-17 Father's Day Triduum of Masses
- June 19 Juneteenth- Parish Offices Closed- 10 am Mass only
- June 21 Men's Prayer Group
- June 21-22 Legion of Mary Feast Day Promotions in Narthex
- June 22 Corpus Christi Procession and Ice Cream social after 1pm Mass

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)

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.

Legion of Mary Feast Day Promotions on June 21-22. The Legion of Mary is sponsoring a promotion / information table in the narthex, June 21-22. Emphasis will be on the feast days of Sacred Heart of Jesus and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (in conjunction with the brown scapular enrollment). Free Literature, holy cards and replacement brown scapulars will be available. All are welcome!

Junior Legion of Mary. Children between the ages of 7 - 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, 4:15-5:15pm, 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 at 703-663-0480.

Save the Date!
 Saint Raymond of Peñafort's
 Annual Parish Picnic
Sunday, August 24th 2-5 pm



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.

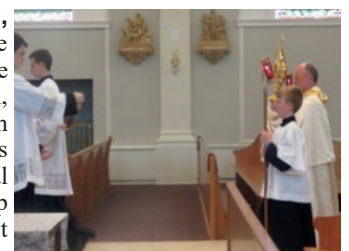
CURSILLO—Meeting on June 13 at 7pm in the St. Raymond Parish Hall. All are invited. Cursillo is a lay movement in the Church which aims to help Catholics grow in their faith through Community, Piety, Study, and Action. Come find out more from a multi-parish grouping of Cursillistas this Friday, June 13th!"

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 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.

Father's Day Triduum: Sunday, June 15th is Father's Day. We will be honoring fathers with a Triduum of Masses on June 15-17. 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. Return cards **by Friday June 13!**

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 June 21st.** For more information, call Dave Wilson, 703-966-5327 or email maryn-davew7705@gmail.com.

Corpus Christi Procession, June 22 will take place in the church after the 1pm Mass. Please join us for an INDOOR Procession, Adoration & Benediction. 1 pm Mass attendees and all parishioners are encouraged to join in this special celebration to honor and worship Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Most Blessed Sacrament. Ice Cream Social to follow in the parish hall.





MEN OF THE PARISH ... A CALL TO ACTION! The Knights of Columbus need men ... men like you! Men with a bias towards action, coupled with a desire to put that action into their Faith, and their Faith into Action!

Now is the time to step into the breach, take action to strengthen your faith, serve others, and be a positive force in your church and your community! There is no better time than now to join the finest council in all of Virginia, the St. John Bosco Council #12846, a council which combines faith, charity, unity, and fraternity in everything it does. Take that step ... **JOIN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS!** Go to <https://www.kofc.org/joinus> to experience the Knights for one year free of dues. Leave the representative code blank, but enter council # **12846** for local information upon registration. For more information or to learn more about the many benefits of being a Knight, please contact our Grand Knight, Mark Lawton, at (703) 576-7693 or by email at mark_cindy85@msn.com.



UPCOMING EVENTS

6/12 - In Igne (see paragraph below for more information)
6/21 - Men's Prayer Breakfast
6/28 - Installation of Council Officers (FY25/26)

IN IGNE (On Fire): The Knights of St. John Bosco Council invite all men of the parish to a night of Theology and Fraternity around the fire pit behind the Parish Hall on Thursday, June 12th at 7pm. Fr. Horkan will lead a theology discussion about Unity. In addition, we will have a little fun doing a taste test. Food and beverages will be provided. You don't have to be a knight to join in and **admission is FREE**. Please RSVP to Barry Ryan at jamesbarryryan@aol.com so we make sure to have enough food.

HELP NEEDED-USHERS AND LECTORS: Please consider volunteering to be an Usher or a Lector at Mass. Contact the parish office if interested, call 703-440-0535.

Urgent Need for Christ House and Gift Shop leaders! Please consider volunteering your time for two very worthy causes. Those leadership seats are or will be vacant soon! Please call the parish office if interested at 703-440-0535. God bless you!

Finding Jesus with St. Therese of Lisieux Women's Retreat -Join Fr. John Riley at the San Damiano Retreat Center in White Post, VA in silence and solitude to learn about this great Saint. This retreat begins at 6 pm Friday June 13th and concludes Sunday June 15th at noon. Retreat cost is \$285. For further information, please contact Father John Riley at: john.riley@arlingtondiocese.org.

Following St. Joseph to Jesus – Men's Silent Retreat He played an essential role in the greatest event in human history; husband to Mary, adopted Father of Jesus Christ, a quiet carpenter... and a righteous man. Aside from these things we don't know much about St. Joseph — but what we do know can help us to be better Men...husbands, and fathers. Join Fr. John Riley at our Arlington Diocese Retreat Center at the edge of the Shenandoah Mountains in White Post, VA to "rest and pray" with Christ. This retreat begins at 6 pm Friday July 11th and concludes Sunday July 13th with lunch at noon. Retreat cost is \$285. For further information, please contact Father John Riley at: john.riley@arlingtondiocese.org For more information about San Damiano and retreats being offered in the months ahead, please visit www.arlingtondiocese.org/retreat.

SAINT RAYMOND'S RESPECTS LIFE TRAGICALLY VIRGINIA IS BECOMING A DESTINATION FOR ABORTION.

Save the date. Saturday 12 JULY. A new abortion facility has opened near Tysons Corner - a location (close to Dulles and the metro) specifically chosen to 'serve' out-of-staters where abortion is restricted. The abortionist moved here from TX after they enacted pro-life legislation. Join Bishop Burbidge for 8:30 am Mass at St John the Beloved in McLean immediately followed by the Rosary on the public sidewalk in front of 'Meadow Reproductive Health and Wellness' at 1749 Old Meadow Road, McLean. The facility will not be open for business that day, but the spiritual battle rages on every day.

Be not complacent! Stay informed! Make your voice heard. There is a fast-tracking move afoot in the Virginia Assembly to make abortion a constitutional human right in our Commonwealth.

Both chambers of the VA Assembly approved a constitutional amendment which would allow abortion at any point in pregnancy. The amendment *which cannot be vetoed by the governor* would also eliminate parental consent and health protections for women and girls, force taxpayers to fund abortion as well as eliminate our current law limiting abortion at 27 weeks.

Sample letters to members of the General Assembly are available in the narthex.

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. There is a great need for diapers, formula, wipes, clothes up to 2T. **Please do not leave bouncy seats, walkers, gates or jogging strollers.** **Thank you for your understanding.**

To those who have suffered an abortion:

Do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope. **The Father of Mercies** is ready to give you His Forgiveness and His Peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation." **Project Rachel** helps women and men who are carrying the grief and sorrow of a past abortion. (888)456-HOPE. Men: (703) 841-3833. Confidentiality always respected. www.helpafterabortion.org.

THE ABORTION PILL now accounts for up to 60% of all abortions. Women often regret the desperate isolated decision to take the abortion pill. Call the abortion reversal helpline 855-209-4848. **It may not be too late.** abortionpillreversal.com.

The Power of Prayer. Abortionists and those who work in the abortion industry trespass against us. Yet how much more they offend Almighty God! As June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we suffer anew the reality that every abortion stops a beating heart which was created to love Our Lord. Every abortion also deforms the abortionist and desensitizes him or her to the humanity of both the mother and child violated through abortion. **Pray fervently for the conversion of abortionists.** Somehow most have been led astray by greed, ignorance, a misguided sense of compassion or perhaps evil itself. Yet the Sacred Heart of Jesus beats for love of them too.

Do you need a personal consultation on real-life (not hypothetical) medical or legal decisions? The **National Catholic Bioethics Center** has the training, expertise, and magisterial fidelity to help you form your conscience with trustworthy resources and confidential, person-to-person interaction. Please visit to www.ncbcenter.org/consultation-form An ethicist will generally respond within 5 business days. Need an answer sooner? Please call us (24/7) at 215-877-2660.

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>



Friday, June 13: High School Bible Study (7-8pm Library)

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! We will meet every Friday in June *except June 27th*.

June 23-June 27

St. Raymond's Week of Faith, Fun & Service!

Rising 9th Graders through 2025 High School Graduates are invited to participate!

Each day will have a mix of 1-3 events (faith, fun or service). Some of the events currently in the works include a talk by Fr. Gregory Pine, O.P. at the Dominican House of Studies, a visit to the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, a service project for Mary's Shelter in Fredericksburg, a few other service projects around the area, White water rafting in Ohio, PA, and the unique opportunity to participate in the FBI Experience Tour in DC! **Compliant adults will be needed for all events!**

You do **not** have to commit to the full week, but you must commit to attend for the duration of ALL events for whichever day(s) you choose to participate in.

Take note of the following dates. More coming soon!

*Monday 6/23: Fr. Gregory Pine & a DC Pilgrimage

*Friday 6/27: White water rafting will be 7:45am-11pm

Compliant adult chaperones/drivers needed!

Contact Jeanne ASAP if you can help, especially rafting on 6/27!

Registration will be available soon!

Attention Class of 2025! The Associates of Saint John Bosco (ASJB), will host five free **College Nights** this summer for graduated seniors heading to college in the fall. One of these nights will take place at the **Basilica of Saint Mary Lyceum** (313 Duke Street) at **7pm on July 22**. These events help rising college freshmen network with other Catholics heading to college, and give them the tools to navigate the transition from high school to college, keeping their Catholic faith strong. Students walk away with a free bundle of Catholic books to take to college to help deepen their faith while away at school. The events come with a pizza dinner, too. Registration is FREE! For additional dates, locations and information, www.asjb.org/student-registration

College Students & Graduating High School Seniors:

The George Mason University Catholic Campus Ministry is hosting Thursday Night Gatherings from 7-9pm every Thursday in June and July for college students and graduating high school seniors at Robert Bellarmine Chapel, 4515 Roberts Rd., Fairfax.

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

Don't forget to register for 2025-26 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.

2025-2026 CCD Registration forms: Teal registration forms can be found in the narthex, outside the Religious Education Office and in the Parish Office. You may also register online through the parish website. Please complete and return the form (with payment) as soon as possible.

Volunteers needed for 2025-26 academic year. Please consider volunteering as a catechist, assistant, or substitute in September. Contact the RE office if you are interested in getting involved! Specific openings so far:

Sunday (5-6:30 pm):

2nd grade Teacher

3rd grade Teacher

7th grade Assistant

Monday (4:45-6:15 pm):

3rd grade Assistant

7th grade Assistant

8th grade Assistant



Summer Library Extended Hours and Reading Program.

Come visit the parish Library! There's something for everyone! Saturdays 1-5. Sundays 10-2. Thursday 3 July 9:30-11:30. Fridays June 13, July 11, 25 and August 1 from 9:30-11:30. Sign Up Sheets for the **15th Annual Pre-K - Grade 8 Summer Reading Program** are available in the narthex, library, parish office and website! *"You will not find anyone who is truly striving after his spiritual advancement who is not given to spiritual reading." St Athanasius*

Chesterton Academy of Christ the King will be opening in the Fall of 2026, hopefully at St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Alexandria. The more than 70 Chesterton Academies nationwide are known for their strong spiritual formation anchored in daily Mass as well as their rigorous, integrated classical curriculum oriented toward the good, the true, and the beautiful. Chesterton high schools form joyful, faithful, curious, articulate, and resilient young men and women prepared for college and for life. Parent information sessions will be held throughout the summer. Visit Chesterton-ChristTheKing.org to learn more, [connect with us here](#), or [register to attend an upcoming information session](#) (June 10, June 28, or July 16)



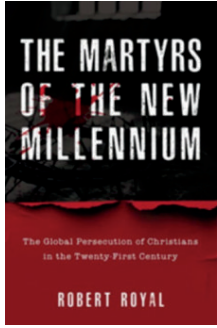
Our Lady of Ransom Scholarships to Catholic Schools are Available.

Please send requests for 2025-26 tuition assistance to Fr. De Celles or contact the parish office for more information. We can also help cover homeschooling expenses.



all proceeds benefit
Mother of Light Center

Order of Malta sponsored
MercyRide 2025
September 13 7:00am
Mount Vernon Trail 6. 20. 30 mi
Beth Shaw: mercyrideinfo@gmail.com



CHURCH PERSECUTED

Lawlessness has its consequences. When the police fail to investigate a crime for political reasons or prosecutors let criminals being held for serious crimes out of jail with minimal or no bond, the lawlessness has its consequences leading to repeated crimes and the belief that the criminal can act without fear of prosecution. This has been the case in several African countries for years as weak ineffective governments fail to investigate crimes fearing retribution from the gangs that roam the countryside and cities of their countries.


Dr. Robert Royal reports such incidents in his new book, *The Martyrs of the New Millennium – The Global Persecution of Christians in the Twenty-First Century* (2025 Sophia Institute Press). In it he covers each continent and countries within each content reporting on Catholics who have died in the pursuit of their work of bringing Catholicism to the people and in doing so also working to improve the living and working conditions where they live. Beyond the publication of the book, the violence continues.

Our Sunday Visitor on-line reports that on May 15, a Catholic priest, Father John Maina Ndegwa, of the Diocese of Nyahururu in Kenya was dumped along the side of the road after being killed. One week later, on May 22, Father Alloys Cheruiyot Bett was shot after saying Mass.

Archbishop Maurice Muhatia Makumba of Kisumu, the president of the Kenyan bishops’ conference noted that, “The work carried out by our Catholic priests goes beyond the service of religion and evangelization It reaches out to caring for the marginalized, the forgotten and the sick, to bring them hope that does not disappoint.” The archbishop called on the Kenyan government to take action to stop the violence.

Violence breeds violence whether turning a blind eye to crime in the United States or in Kenya. Removing the spiritual element from society, as is occurring around the world, is also removing God and bringing chaos.

<https://www.osvnews.com/bishops-speak-up-after-two-catholic-priests-killed-in-kenya/>.



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/](https://www.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

Angelus Academy is seeking a new **Head of School**. The Head of School, working closely with the Director of School Mission, will embody, manifest, and advocate the mission, vision, and culture of the school, as articulated in Angelus Academy's mission statement. The Head of School will be tasked with establishing a rapport with the community, strengthening faculty culture and professional development, and advancing the mission of Catholic classical education. For a full job description or to apply, please email Hannah Brink at board@angelusacademy.org.

John Paul the Great Summer Camps June-August 2025
JP Summer Camps registration is now open! Sign your elementary and middle school-age children up for a variety of athletic and enrichment camps during the summer months. For registration and more details, please visit: <https://www.jpthegreat.org/apps/pages/summeractivities>.

Qualified Charitable Distributions

QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION (QCD) If you are 70-1/2 or more, please consider making an IRA Charitable gift to the parish before December 31. If you are 73 or older and need to make required minimum distributions (RMD) from your IRA, your QCD counts toward your annual RMD for the year. **QCDs can have a significant tax benefit for you.** Eligible accounts for QCDs can be made from most IRAs, including Traditional IRAs, Rollover IRAs, Inherited IRAs, and Roth IRAs. **Always consult your Tax professional regarding your specific situation.** Use our parish address: St. Raymond of Penafort Catholic Church, 8750 Pohick Road, Springfield, VA 22153.

SUNDAY OFFERTORY 06/01/2025

Offertory	\$17,149.50
Family Assistance	\$ 864.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 1,067.00
OLOR Scholarship	\$ 880.00
Catholic Communications	\$ 2,159.00



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

Summer with the Saints: Sign up for 12 weeks of faith-filled videos and family-friendly activities, delivered weekly to your inbox, starting June 1st.

Watch: Saint Anthony: The Miracle Worker of Padua

This film is the first major feature length drama on the life of St. Anthony of Padua, the beloved miracle worker. The film presents Anthony as a dynamic and appealing person who sacrificed wealth, popularity, and family for the Kingdom of God.



For Kids: Saint Anthony of Padua/Lukas Storyteller The fair has reached the reef and our friends must earn their tickets. Peter gets into trouble and thanks to his sister, Agnes, and his friends, Luas and Noah, we learn an important lesson-following the example of St. Anthony of Padua-about always telling the truth.

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

We are now actively accepting a leader/volunteer to take over this very important ministry, Contact the Parish office if interested

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