

"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
Maerose Naduvilekunnel, Business Manager
Eva Radel, Parish Secretary
Catherine Hansen, Parish Office Intern
Mary Butler, Parish Office Support

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

Our Lady of Ransom Catholic School and Home School Scholarship Fund: 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)

First Fridays

3:00-4:00 pm and 6:00-7:00 pm

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.

OCIA: The Order 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

GOD BLESS AMERICA! This week we celebrate the 250th anniversary of signing of the Declaration of Independence, the birth of these United States of America. And it is right we celebrate this Birthday.

But at birthday parties we sing “Happy Birthday to you...” and maybe, “For he’s a jolly good fellow...” Have you ever been to a birthday party where they sang, “For he’s *not* a jolly good fellow!...Sometimes he’s a really bad fellow!”? Or instead of “Happy Birthday to you!” they sang, “Unhappy Birthday to you!”

But that’s what a lot of Americans do with July 4th. They say, “yes, we love America, *but* there’s a lot of things wrong with it that need to change.” They take the day as an opportunity to tear down our nation and our history, to dwell especially on her past sins and how they make America a bad place to live today.

Consider the recent Gallup poll that showed only 58% of U.S. adults say they are “extremely” or “very” proud to be an American. In January of 2001, that figure was 88%—a thirty-point drop. We see this in the news every day, and your friends probably talk about it. You may even do that somewhat—even if you love America, you can’t help but notice the problems we have today and you may even let it consume you. Even the slogan, “Make America Great Again” presumes America is not great anymore—there’s something wrong.

Now, don’t get me wrong. America has made a lot of mistakes in the past, some terrible sins. And today we do need to make a lot of changes, some things are obviously broken.

And one of the things that is broken and that needs to change is a lack of pride in (“good pride” as St. Thomas calls it) and love for our country, Patriotism. And that’s what the 4th of July is supposed to be about. Not “a time for reflection on the good and the bad.” A time to celebrate the good! We spend way too much time reflecting—and worrying and arguing—about the bad things.

The 4th is time to focus on what a great country we have. Yes it’s not perfect, but who says to the birthday girl or boy, “hey, happy birthday, but you’re not really perfect, so let’s talk about the time you were mean to....”?

NO! Let’s focus on, be grateful for and celebrate America’s greatness! We need this, now—we need to focus on and revivify our love for America, or Patriotism.

A few weeks ago I preached about “pride,” and explained that there is a good pride, which is “reasonable self-worth,” and there is a sinful pride which is “exaggerated self-worth.” And I quoted St. Thomas Aquinas saying, “there is a good and an evil pride...A sinful pride which God resists, and a pride that denotes the glory which He bestows.”

So these next two weeks, beginning today, let’s celebrate the Semiquincentennial of America with “good pride” in America, because it is reasonable to do so. Especially as Christians, as we need consider all the good things God has bestowed on us. From the miraculous victory over the greatest army in the world in 1783, to becoming the most prosperous and generous nation in the history of the world. As Abraham Lincoln once wrote: “No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God.”

TRADITIONAL RITES. Did you see this announcement last week:

“Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Arlington, has announced the establishment, beginning on July

1, 2026, of a Chaplaincy under the patronage of Our Lady of Victory, as a special ministry led by priests of the Priestly Fraternity of Saint Peter (FSSP) to serve the needs of those who attend Mass and desire to receive other sacraments in the Extraordinary Form.... The FSSP is a society of apostolic life of pontifical right, erected by the Holy See and in full communion with the Church, in contrast to the Society of Saint Pius X (SSPX), which remains in a state of irregular communion.

“As a Chaplaincy, rather than a parish, this agreement allows [FSSP priests] ...to serve primarily in Front Royal while periodically assisting elsewhere in the diocese. Since the priests of the FSSP have the faculty, granted them by a decree of Pope Francis on February 11, 2022, to celebrate the Mass and the sacraments in the Extraordinary Form ...this arrangement enables the faithful....to be able to participate in the celebration of the Mass in the Extraordinary Form. Diocesan policy about such celebrations remains in effect. The celebration of Baptism, Confirmation, and Matrimony in the Extraordinary Form is for those individuals/families who have a particular pastoral connection to the community and who participate regularly in this form of the liturgy with the consent of the local pastor and the local ordinary....

“This arrangement does not affect the celebration of the Mass in the Extraordinary Form which continues at three parishes and five non-parish church locations according to diocesan policy and the permission of the Dicastery for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments.”

Now, I’m not sure exactly what the ramifications of this are, and it leaves a lot of questions unanswered. e.g., can an FSSP priest come to St. Raymond’s to celebrate the Mass, or baptisms or weddings in Extraordinary Form Mass? We will know soon enough, but in the meantime this is a wonderful thing for the diocese, especially for those of us who love the “Traditional Rite.”

Foolish Things Other Bishops Say. While our Bishop was showing us his wisdom and love in establishing the above chaplaincy, some other bishops were showing us something else. Consider:

Catholic World News Article: “On the evening of June 6th—the Vigil of the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ—Detroit Archbishop Edward Weisenburger joined ...Muslim dignitaries at the ...inauguration of the Imam Al-Hasanain Mosque.... ‘There is no place where I feel more respect, fraternity and kindness,’ Weisenburger declared. ‘From the moment I entered this beautiful site, I felt a profound divine presence...’

Note: I feel sorry for the Archbishop that he feels more respect and fraternity in a mosque than he does in a Catholic Church. I’m also aghast that he thinks the Divine Presence is found in mosques (something Muslims don’t even believe.)

Catholic Herald Article: “Bishop Antonio Staglianò, president of the Pontifical Academy of Theology, has described John Lennon’s 1971 song “Imagine” – which calls for a world with “no heaven” and “no religion too” – as the “most beautiful song in the world” endorsing its vision of abolishing any religion, God or heaven for which one “must kill or die” in a video posted on May 18....

“In the video, Bishop Staglianò, who was appointed to lead the academy by Pope Francis in August 2022, stated: “Let’s abolish religion, let’s abolish God, let’s abolish heaven. Who says that? John Lennon, in the most beautiful song in the world, ‘Imagine’”....”

Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, June 29th

6:30 am Andrew Troup
 8:30 am James L. Mault +

Tuesday, June 30th

6:30 am Bob Ferguson +
 8:30 am Julian Santos +

Wednesday, July 1st

6:30 am Bernadette Troup
 8:30 am Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone
 7:00 pm Celebrant's Intentions

Thursday, July 2nd

6:30 am Benedict Troup
 8:30 am Russ Corolla +

Friday, July 3rd

10:00 am Anne Avvenire +

Saturday, July 4th

9:00 am Ted Tolpa +

Vigil Mass

5:00 pm **Fr. Horkan**
 For Our Beloved Country

Sunday, July 5th

7:00 am **Fr. Horkan**
 R. E. Catechists
 9:00 am **Fr. De Celles**
 Parishioners
 11:00 am **Fr. Horkan**
 Eugenia Marcelo Posadas +
 1:00 pm **Fr. De Celles**
 Nancy Therese Christman +

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.

Brandon Skiba

Ryan Higgins

Please pray for the sick of our parish

Glenn Bliss	Paul Haynes	Beth Fitzgibbons
Michael O'Neill	Nena Brennan	Jean Keegan
Cindy Laird	Donald Trayer	Robert Petitti
Patricia Lewis	Ellen Trayer	Alicia Tocconi
Mai Pham	Arlene Pietraszko	Jay & Linda Cabacar
Jason Saenz	Virginia Cummings	Rita Felkel
Phyllis Zitnik	Mary M. Dixon	Colleen O'Connor
John Florio	Helen Estabrooks	Mary Grace Gottstein
Carolina Baker	Michael Snaveley	Pat Ravenelle
Debra Henkel	Annette Haynes	Flavia Tommasi
Gaudencio Dizon	Joann Alba	Marvin Opulencia

Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church

- 6/29 Young Adults 7 pm
- 6/29 No in person Family of Jesus Prayer Group
- 6/30-7/2 Summer Floor Maintenance in Parish Hall
- 7/1 Adoration 9 am—7 pm
- 7/2 No Bridge Club
- 7/3 Parish Offices Closed for **Fourth of July** Holiday
- 7/3 One Mass at 10 am
- 7/3 No Adoration
- 7/3 Daily Family Rosary at 10:45 am
- 7/3-4 No First Friday Nocturnal Adoration July
- 7/4 No Men's Prayer Group
- 7/4 First Saturday Communal Prayers
- 7/6 No in person Family of Jesus Prayer Group
- 7/6 Young Adults 7 pm
- 7/8 Adoration 9 am—7 pm
- 7/10 Adoration 9 am—3 pm
- 7/18-19 Brown Scapular Enrollment after all Masses
- 7/31 Christ House Dinner Hosting

**View livestreaming
 of the Holy Mass at St. Raymond's
www.straymonds.org**

**Monday - Friday Daily Mass at 8:30 am
 Wednesday at 7 pm
 Saturday at 9:00 am
 Sunday Mass at 9:00 am & 11:00 am
 (See the website for Holy Days)**

WE ARE IN URGENT NEED OF ADORERS! Our Wednesday Adoration schedule is in need of Adorers especially for the 12 pm Noon hour. Please consider spending time with Our Lord. Contact the Parish office if interested, 703-440-0535.

DAILY FAMILY ROSARY LEADERS NEEDED! St. Raymond's has a Daily Family Rosary in the church: Monday-Friday at 6:30pm and Saturday and Sunday after the 9am Mass. **Please visit our website to sign up to lead during July!** All are invited to attend.

YOUNG ADULT WOMEN—ages 20-40, join the women of our parish in an Endow study of Saint Pope John Paul II's Apostolic Letter, *Mulieris Dignitatem* (Dignity of Women). They meet on first and third Thursdays from 7-9pm to read together, discuss our roles as women in Christ, and grow in Christian fellowship. For more information, please contact Dominique Bliss, domarch20@gmail.com, (470) 652-3411 or Elise Hamilton, 2EliseHamilton@gmail.com, (703) 300-4131.

PARISH PICNIC COMMITTEE—Our annual parish picnic is Sunday, August 23rd. We are looking for volunteers interested in joining the committee to support the event. For more information or to sign up, please contact the parish office at office@straymonds.org or call 703-440-0535.

BROWN SCAPULAR ENROLLMENT. Thursday, July 16 is the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. On Saturday, July 18 at the Vigil Mass and Sunday, July 19 after all Masses, we will be enrolling people in the Confraternity and investing them with the Brown Scapular. If you have not been enrolled previously and would like to, please stay after Mass to participate.

CHESTERTON ACADEMY OF CHRIST THE KING is a small co-ed classical high school that is part of the international Chesterton Schools Network, will be opening at St. Lawrence Catholic Church this fall. Chesterton Academies are known for their strong Catholic identity anchored in daily school Mass, rigorous classical curriculum, screen-free socratic seminar format, and affordable tuition. Visit Chesterton-ChristTheKing.org to learn more or to apply. Limited spaces remain for rising freshmen for the 2026-2027 school year.

HOME SCHOOL GROUP - for more information visit our website www.homeschool-life.com/va/straymondhsg/ Or email straymondhsg@gmail.com.

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 July 18th.** For more information, call Dave Wilson, 703-966-5327 or email maryndavew7705@gmail.com.



July 3rd is a Federal Holiday



**One Mass at 10 am
 Daily Family Rosary at 10:45
 No Adoration
 Parish Offices Closed**



CHRIST HOUSE—We are hosting a Christ House dinner on the fifth Friday of July. If you would like to help, please contact Jackie Kruse at 703-232-6668 or email christhousecommittee@straymonds.org.



Knights of Columbus St. John Bosco Council #12846 Newly Elected Officers. It is with great pride that the newly elected officers for the St. Raymond's St. John Bosco Council #12846 for Fraternal Year 2026-2027 are hereby

introduced. Congratulations to them all! The Installation Ceremony will occur on Saturday, 27 June in the Parish Hall following the 5:00 PM Mass (approximately 6:15 PM): Please offer them your warmest congratulations when you see them!

Grand Knight – Dave Hayes

Deputy Grand Knight – Gopal Sharma

Chaplain - Fr. Edward Horkan (Appointed by Father De Celles)

Financial Secretary - Mark Menotti

Treasurer - Bill Vitaletti

Chancellor – Vince Drouillard

Asst. Chancellor - Sam Drouillard

Warden – Don Hale

Inside Guard – Ken Lawhorn

Outside Guard - Donald Junta

Recorder - Ron Fauquet

Asst. Recorder - Mike Avis

Advocate – Mike Miller

Trustee - Mark Lawton

Trustee - Barry Ryan

Trustee - Phil Bettwy

Life Program Lead - John Crennan

Faith Program Lead - SK Mark Lawton

Community Program Lead - Kenny Lawhorn

Family Program Lead - Barry Ryan

If you are a Knight, please come to the next Membership Meeting on Monday, July 13 at 7:30 PM and be a part of the next Fraternal Year from the very start. If you are not a Knight and want to learn more about our Council, please call the Grand Knight-Elect, Dave Hayes, at (703) 380-4550. Live Fully! Become a KNIGHT!

KOVAR is a Virginia Knights of Columbus Charity established in 1971 to provide financial assistance to people with intellectual disabilities. The Knights of Columbus are still collecting donations for KOVAR online. If you didn't get a chance to contribute previously, please consider donating using the QR Code please. Thank you for your support!



DO YOU DESIRE A MORE MEANINGFUL PRAYER LIFE? Perhaps God is inviting you to an intercessory prayer ministry that helps keep a sense of awe and gratitude for His presence through His priests. Please consider joining the Seven Sisters Apostolate who prays an hour specifically for our St. Raymond's priests (at the church during a time you choose). Each priest at St. Raymond's should have at least one sister praying for him each day of the week. Join one of the Seven Sisters teams, or join Substitute. Visit www.sevensistersapostolate.org. Please contact Renee LeBoeuf for more information renee.leboeuf@gmail.com.

JP SUMMER CAMPS – REGISTER TODAY! Saint John Paul the Great Catholic High School's summer camp registration is now open! Check out this year's camp offerings and sign up today! For rising 2nd to 9th graders, JP summer camps are a great way to spend your summer! John Paul offers both Athletic and Enrichment Camps and its premier day camp, Camp Quintessential. Go to jpthegreat.org/summercamp to learn more about what JP is offering!

NEW ONLINE GIVING PLATFORM! We are transitioning to Pushpay, our new online giving platform. Please visit our website and click on the blue button in the upper right corner titled "Online Giving" or scan the QR code provided here.



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 interested in joining us.



SAINT RAYMOND'S LOVES LIFE

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

[Fathers,] *"Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong."* 1 Cor 16:13

There is no morally significant difference between the embryo that you once were and the adult that you are today. Differences of size, level of development, environment, and degree of dependency are not relevant such that we can say that you had no rights as an embryo but you do have rights today. Prolifetraining.com.

There can be no such things as 'secret discipleship'. Either the secrecy destroys the discipleship or the discipleship destroys the secrecy. (from *Pro Life Reflections*) "Your light must shine so that it can be seen by others." Mt 5:16

Whether in person, by phone, email or regular mail, we are all urged to contact our representatives in Richmond to politely voice our opposition to any support of the proposed abortion amendment in Virginia. Otherwise, **'Silence implies consent'**! whosmy.virginiageneralassembly.gov.

ToughTopics.Life What comes to mind when you hear the word 'abortion'? Learn what it is and what it leaves behind. **Abortion Basics** equips you with straightforward knowledge and listening skills so you are ready to answer questions and guide others to life affirming choices.

MaRiH Pregnancy Care Center... Humble amazement continues! Thank you for the steady stream of overwhelming material support! Diapers welcome and so very much appreciated. Collection box near is in the narthex. **Greatest needs:** size 5 and 6 diapers, clothes up to 2T, formula, wipes. **Please do not leave** bouncy seats, walkers, gates or jogging strollers.

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.

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 we call on Our Father to forgive us, we are called to forgive those who trespass against us. Every abortion deforms the abortionist and desensitizes him or her to the humanity of both the mother and child violated through abortion. In fact, it diminishes their understanding of the inherent value of every human being. **Pray fervently for the conversion of abortionists.** Somehow, they have been led astray by greed, ignorance, a misguided sense of compassion or perhaps evil itself.

St. Raymond's Youth Apostolate

NEED: Laborers (age 21+) for the Vineyard Are you willing to share the Gospel with Your life?

The Youth Apostolate is in need of SEVERAL more volunteers for the 2026-2027 academic year. Isaiah 6:8 God has you here for a reason! Pray and ask the Lord if He is calling you to help. No experience necessary. Training will be provided...so long as you respond soon!!

Specific Volunteer Needs/Time Commitments:

- ◆ 3-6pm most Sundays: Jr. High Youth Group
- ◆ 6-9pm most Sundays: High School Youth Group
- ◆ Talitha Koum High School Girls Group—day/time TBD
- ◆ 6-8am most Fridays: Help set up/serve Friday breakfast

“Proclaiming Christ means above all giving witness to Him with one's life. It is the simplest form of preaching the Gospel and, at the same time, the most effective way available to you. It consists in showing the visible presence of Christ in one's own life by a daily commitment and by making every concrete decision in conformity with the Gospel. Today the world especially needs believable witnesses.” - Pope Saint John Paul II

“Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses.”

—Pope Saint Paul VI

“The two disciples were initially with Jesus only for a few hours, but that encounter changed their lives forever. The first thing Andrew did afterwards was go and tell his brother Simon, ‘We found the Messiah’ (cf. v. 41), in other words, ‘We have found the one we were looking for!’ After meeting Jesus, Andrew could not help but share with his brother what he had found. Indeed, missionary zeal is born from an encounter with Christ. We desire to share with others what we have received so that they, too, can come to know the fullness of love and truth found only in Him.

I pray that...you will be moved by this same missionary zeal to share with those around you the joy that you have received from a genuine encounter with the Lord.” - Pope Leo's Message to SEEK 2026

Contact Jeanne for more information about volunteering.

Attention Class of 2026: The Associates of Saint John Bosco will host five free **College Nights** this summer for graduated seniors heading to college in the fall. The two nights closest to us are:

- ◆ June 30th at **Holy Spirit** in Annandale (7pm)
- ◆ July 21st at **Basilica of Saint Mary** in Alexandria (7pm)

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 get 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, go to www.asjb.org/student-registration.

COLLEGE/YOUNG ADULT GATHERINGS (INCLUDING HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2026)

7pm-8:30pm EVERY MONDAY through August 10th Young Adults (post high school-age 35ish) of the parish are organizing weekly gatherings to build community and grow in faith. Join us on the back patio at St. Raymond's. In the case of rain, meet in the hall. Email youngadults@straymonds.org to be added to the GroupMe for updates.

High School Class of 2026 & Current College Students:

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 email list for the most updated info on Youth Apostolate news & upcoming events!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Parents: It is time to register for 2026-27 CCD classes! Classes will begin on August 30 and 31 and registrations received after July 31 will be subject to a \$25 late fee. Please look for a yellow handout at one of the exits for registration information or visit our parish website!

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 Catholic School and homeschool students intending to receive First Holy Communion or Confirmation at St. Raymond's must register with the RE office** even if they will not attend classes. Please reach out with any questions.

Volunteers needed for 2026-27 academic year. If you or someone you know is looking for a rewarding way to volunteer for the parish, please consider joining our wonderful team of teachers. We are in need of the following volunteers for the 2026-2027 academic year:

Sunday (5-6:30 pm):
4th grade Teacher

Monday (4:45-6:15)
1st grade Assistant



OUR LADY OF RANSOM 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 this 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. There is also assistance available for homeschooling families. Contact the parish office for more information.

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.

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 Maurer Room. 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.

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 her at: C - 703-663-0480.

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. We will not be meeting in person from June 29-July 20.

SAINT RAYMOND'S TRAIL LIFE TROOP VA-0683 is a great scouting opportunity for the boys of the parish. By pairing outdoor opportunities like camping and wood tools with spiritual formation and a focus on developing the faith life of our sons, Trail Life seeks to develop boys into young men who are godly and responsible husbands, fathers, and citizens. Our troop meets on the first and third Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall, beginning again this September. For additional information, please contact TrailLifeUSA@straymonds.org.

CHURCH PERSECUTED

As we enter the final Sunday prior to our nation's 250th celebration of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, we continue a reflection on the crucial role that the United States of America plays within its own boundaries and across the world. These are excerpts from a presentation that Pope Saint John Paul II gave during a meeting on December 16, 1997, with H.E. Mrs. Corrine (Lindy) Claiborne Boggs, the new United States of America Ambassador to the Holy See.

"...It would truly be a sad thing if the religious and moral convictions upon which the American experiment was founded could now somehow be considered a danger to free society, such that those who would bring these convictions to bear upon your nation's public life would be denied a voice in debating and resolving issues of public policy. The original separation of Church and State in the United States was certainly not an effort to ban all religious conviction from the public sphere, a kind of banishment of God from civil society.

Indeed, most Americans, regardless of their religious persuasion, are convinced that religious conviction and religiously informed moral argument have a vital role in public life.

"No expression of society's commitment to liberty and justice for all can be more basic than the protection afforded to those in society who are most vulnerable. The United States of America was founded on the conviction that an inalienable right to life was a self-evident moral truth, fidelity to which was a primary criterion of social justice. The moral history of your country is the story of your people's efforts to widen the circle of inclusion in society, so that all Americans might enjoy the protection of law, participate in the responsibilities of citizenship, and have the opportunity to make a contribution to the common good. Whenever a certain category of people – the unborn or the sick and old – are excluded from that protection, a deadly anarchy subverts the original understanding of justice. The credibility of the United States will depend more and more on its promotion of a genuine culture of life, and on a renewed commitment to building a world in which the weakest and most vulnerable are welcomed and protected." <https://tomperna.org/2020/07/04/pope-saint-john-paul-ii-the-american-experiment/>

FORMED®



GET INFORMED

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

Saint Thomas More: The Age of the Author This engaging series delves into the lives of the saints who led the Catholic Counter-Reformation. In this episode, learn about St. Thomas More, a patient witness to the faith who endured a heroic martyrdom at the hands of Henry VIII. <https://app.formed.org/app/videos/582679/>

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com



Angelus Academy

Where the Truth of Catholic teaching takes flesh in the lives of 3 year-old to 8th grade children and their families.

As we begin planning for the 2026-2027 school year, we are preparing to fill several teaching and staff positions. We are seeking joyful, faithful, and dedicated candidates who are drawn to the daily work of forming young children in a Catholic classical school environment. Our early childhood classrooms are places where children are invited into wonder, prayer, rich language, beautiful stories, meaningful habits, early academic skills, and the joyful discovery of God's love and His plan for each child.

Currently, we have employment opportunities in Full-time Kindergarten and 1st grade teaching positions as well as part-time music and Little Messengers aide positions, all beginning in August.

Interested candidates may send a cover letter and resume to Mr. Joseph Ammirati, Interim Head of School, at employment@angelusacademy.org.

We invite you to help us spread the word in your family and our parish community!

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 to verify your email address.

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.

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

CALLING ALL MOMS OF YOUNG CHILDREN OR EXPECTANT MOTHERS! Our moms' group aims to build community through faith, meaningful conversations, and shared experiences. Each Wednesday we meet from 9:30am to 11:30am either at a local playground or at St. Raymond's. To join the group, email Morgan Hempfling for more information: sohlmb@gmail.com.

ANNUAL SUMMER FLOOR MAINTENANCE -The Parish Hall will be closed **June 30-July 2** to outside activities. Thank you for your patience and support.

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY: We invite you to join us for Communal First Saturday Devotions on **July 4 immediately following 9am Mass**. Come participate in this beautiful & important devotion given to us by Our Lady of Fatima, and learn more about her powerful promises for our current times! Following 9am Mass, we pray the Daily Family Rosary in the Church; and then proceed to the Parish Hall for Fatima prayers & a special meditation on the mysteries, with the intention of consoling our Blessed Mother in reparation of poor sinners. Concludes by 10:30am. All are invited!

This Weekend's Second Collection: Peter's Pence

LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTIONS (6/21/26):

Offertory	\$ 15,393.00
Family Assistance	\$ 619.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 1,235.00
OLOR	\$ 550.00
Sisters Handmaid of Reparation	\$ 8,784.00



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Lisa Sparkman at 717-507-3766 or lsparkman@diocesan.com



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