

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



Rev. John C. DeCelles, 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
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.

We come to Saint Raymond of Peñafort Catholic Church

8750 Pohick Road
Springfield, VA 22153

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm

Sunday: 7:00am, 9:00am (Latin-English),
11:00am and 1:00pm

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday-Friday:

6:30am & 8:30am

7:00pm on Wednesdays

Saturday: 9:00am

WEBSITE: www.straymonds.org

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

(Reconciliation/Confession)

Wednesday Evening

6:15-7:00pm (during Exposition)

First Fridays

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

Saturday Morning

8:00-9:00am

Saturday Afternoon

3:30-5:00pm

Sunday Morning

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

□

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Wednesday from 9:00 am to 7:00pm

Friday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

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

QUESTION #1 *[What follows is shortened version of my homily from Oct. 4]*

In 1661 the General Assembly of the Virginia Colony passed the first law that enabled the ownership of black people. And over the next 200 years slavery became the backbone of the Virginia economy, helping to make it the wealthiest State of the 13 original United States of America.

But it would pay the price for its hubris, as it was absolutely decimated by the Civil War (1861-1865), as most of the battles were fought and most of the blood was spilt on our land.

Sadly, even after the war was ended, the effects of slavery warped the hearts of too many Virginians, as the "black codes," of systemic and legal segregation, the poll tax and literacy tests perpetuated the treatment of the descendants of slaves as inferior creatures, and not "true Virginians." And all that culminated in the Racial Integrity Act of 1924, criminalizing interracial marriage and codifying the different treatment of two legal races: white and non-white.

Thanks be to God, today those laws are gone. But Virginians are ashamed that the Racial Integrity Act wasn't repealed until **1975**. 1661 to 1975: **324 years**.

So, you'd think that with **that** history, Virginia would have learned the lesson to never again treat one class of human beings as less than another, even sub-human.

But now Virginians are voting in the election ending on November 3, on an amendment to the State's Constitution that would once again segregate and subjugate one class of citizens to the will and effective ownership of another class. This time, the two classes are not "white" and "non-white" but "born" and "unborn."

The amendment proposed in Ballot Question #1 will create an "fundamental right to reproductive freedom" allowing women and girls in Virginia to kill, or abort, their unborn babies, even up to full term, even during the birth, or partial birth abortion.

What is this if not a return to mentality of the bad old days of slavery and "Racial Integrity"? What gives a human being a right to own another person, just because they are not-white? What gives a human being a fundamental right to kill another person, just because they are not-born?

And yet, this amendment has an excellent, or rather alarming, chance of passing.

Now, the supporters of the amendment will tell you that I'm exaggerating. I'm not. The amendment clearly says: "An individual's right to reproductive freedom shall not be, directly or indirectly, denied, burdened, or infringed upon." Yes, there's some language after that about the state regulating abortion for a compelling reason, but then it negates that language by adding, but **only** if it "does not infringe on that individual's autonomous decision making." In other words: abortion will be legal if the woman, or girl, or her doctor decides it is.

Don't let them lie to you. When you vote on this, the Ballot won't include the **actual** language of the amendment. Instead of the actual amendment you'll only find a "Question" on the ballot. And the Question basically lies about what the amendment does, by couching it in ambiguous language, and leaving out the worst parts of the proposal.

And they lie when they say this amendment is just about a woman's right to choose. No. It doesn't apply to just to "women" —it doesn't even include the word "woman" in it. It applies to "every individual." So, girls, teenagers, and little girls.

So it means parents will have no say if their child wants an abortion —they won't even have to know.

And it's not just about abortion. It applies to all "reproductive freedom." Sexual activity is an essential part of reproduction. So effectively this amendment says there can be no law that restricts, directly or indirectly, sexual activity. So, things like statutory rape, the age of consent—those are gone.

And it protects predators because it says you can't punish anyone for, "aiding or assisting another individual in exercising... reproductive freedom" So, it'll be legal for 30-year-old man to seduce a 15-year-old girl, because he is just assisting her in exercising her freedom.

And they will say it's all about the wellbeing of the woman. And yet, it will eliminate any requirements regarding the qualifications of the abortionist, or the "clinic." Anyone will be able to administer abortion, without any standard for hygiene or training.

The truth is this amendment is the most repugnant law ever proposed in Virginia in the 350 years of her existence, only comparable to the laws of slavery and racial integrity.

I've been preaching against abortion for 31 years, especially in October, Respect Life Month, which, in Virginia, is always about a month before elections. But in the past, I've been urging folks to elect pro-life politicians. The difficulty with that is that politicians are a mixed bag. You may have a politician who is pro-life, but you disagree with him, or her, on almost everything else. So you may not vote for them, or you may just stay at home.

But it's absolutely different this time. For the first time in the history of our state, we get to vote **for** or **against** killing babies. Vote **"yes"** for abortion, or vote **"no"** against abortion. The choice is absolutely totally clear.

In [last week's] Gospel Jesus tells the parable about the tenants who kill the landowner's son, saying, **"Come, let us kill him and acquire his inheritance."** They kill the son for their own supposed good. And Jesus asks the question: "What will the owner of the vineyard do to those tenants when he comes?" The answer? **"He will put those wretched men to a wretched death..."**

What is abortion, but people saying, "let us kill the baby...for our own benefit?"

So, in love, and for fear for your souls, my beloved children, I say to you: If you say "yes" to abortion, either by voting "yes" to Question 1, or by not voting at all, like the tenant, you are saying, "let us kill the baby," and, unless you repent, you will face the wretched death of hell. So, in love, I say to you: vote, and vote NO!

But that's not all. Pray, fast, and get others to vote no. Your adult children and siblings, your parents and grandparents, your neighbors and friends.

Just explain the amendment to them. Because only 13% of Americans support legalizing abortion in all cases, and only 22% support third trimester abortions. And that's exactly what this amendment will allow.

So just help them to recognize that no reasonable person, even someone who considers themselves "pro-choice," wants to allow what this amendment will allow.

It is stunning to me that after hard learned lessons of slavery and segregation, that it is abhorrent for one class of human beings to treat another class of human beings as property or subhuman, that now Virginia proposes to revert to that same sin and allow the **born** to treat the **unborn** as property or subhuman. I cannot believe we will do that again.

We cannot do that again.

Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles

MASS INTENTIONS	
Monday, October 12th 10 am Bruce Brody +	Saturday, October 17th 9:00 am Debbie Hoeber +
Tuesday, October 13th 6:30 am Lawrence Ehom + 8:30 am Melissa Ryder Harris +	Vigil Mass 5:00 pm Fr. Bergida Doan Family
Wednesday, October 14th 6:30 am Balden & Recina Chopra + 8:30 am Kay Aulenti + 7:00 pm Celebrant's Intentions	Sunday, October 18th 7:00 am Fr. Horkan Carlo Enrico Javier +
Thursday, October 15th 6:30 am Carlo Enrico Javier + 8:30 am Chris Menotti +	9:00 am Fr. Bergida Parishioners
Friday, October 16th 6:30 am Carlo Enrico Javier + 8:30 am Jessie Stewart Brown +	11:00 am Fr. Horkan Virginia Nance
	1:00 pm Fr. Bergida Family of Jesus Prayer Group

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 and Ryan Higgins		
Please pray for the sick of our parish:		
Glenn Bliss Michael O'Neill Cindy Laird Patricia Lewis Mai Pham Jason Saenz Phyllis Zitnik John Florio Carolina Baker Debra Henkel Gaudencio Dizon	Paul Haynes Nena Brennan Donald Trayer Ellen Trayer Arlene Pietraszko Virginia Cummings Mary M. Dixon Annette Haynes Joann Alba Beth Fitzgibbons	Robert Petitti Alicia Toccooni Jay & Linda Cabacar Rita Felkel Frankie Downs Pauline Ferguson Julio Rojas Christy Shaiko Lilia Unalivia

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)

Upcoming Events at St. Raymond Church

Oct 12 Columbus Day One Mass at 10 am
 Oct 12 Daily Family Rosary moved to 10:45 am
 Oct 12 Parish Offices Closed
 Oct 13 Junior Legion of Mary 4:15 pm in Classroom 2
 Oct 13 Legion of Mary 6:30 pm in Library
 Oct 14 Adoration 9 am- 7pm
 Oct 16 Adoration 9 am -3pm
 Oct 17 Confirmation Retreat
 Oct 24 WAY Men's Retreat



OPEN HOUSE at John Paul the Great- Sunday, November 1st John Paul the Great's Open House is fun for the whole family! Learn more about our rigorous college-preparatory curriculum, competitive athletics, inspiring visual and performing arts, and abundant extracurricular opportunities. Meet students, faculty, coaches, administration, and parents to learn more about the programs you love. Pre-register here! https://jpthegreat.fsenrollment.com/portal/new_inquiry

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - Saint Raymond's will be putting together another Pictorial Directory and is in need of volunteers to form a committee. Some of the effort includes data entry and checking families in for their photo shoot. If you are interested in helping, please contact the Parish Office at 703-440-0535 or please email office@straymonds.org.

SAINT BERNADETTE RELIC TOUR - Saint Bernadette Catholic Church will welcome the Relics of Its Patron Saint as Part of the National Journey of Grace Pilgrimage from Lourdes, France. The faithful of Northern Virginia will have an extraordinary opportunity to welcome and venerate the relics of Saint Bernadette Soubirous of Lourdes when they visit Saint Bernadette Catholic Church in Springfield, Virginia, November 5-6, 2026. All are welcome.

VOTING INFORMATION TABLE IN THE NARTHEX
 This year we have a very important Election for U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives coming up on November 3. There are also three proposed amendments to the Virginia Constitution that need your input. Our VOTER INFORMATION TABLE is set up in the Narthex. If you need to register to vote, update your registration, or vote absentee, we have the forms for you. Stop by.





THE FULLNESS OF KNIGHTHOOD:



Join the Knights! Your very own St. John Bosco Council #12846 has just been awarded the prestigious and distinguished **STATE DEPUTY AWARD** for a **THIRD YEAR** in a row as one of the most outstanding councils in the Commonwealth of Virginia. This noteworthy award is only earned by strong Catholic men tirelessly working together to serve their parish, community and their nation. Now is the **perfect time** to take your place with us. Just go to <https://www.kofc.org/joinus> to experience the Knights **free** for one year. Enter our council #12846 for local information when you register. Please contact our Grand Knight, Dave Hayes, at cell [\(703\) 380-4550](tel:(703)380-4550) if you have any questions or want to learn more about the many benefits of being a Knight!

Upcoming Events—OCTOBER—

- 17 Men's Prayer Group 7:30 am Parish Hall
- 17/18 Blood Drive Sign Up in Narthex
- 17/18 Recruitment Drive in Narthex
- 24/25 Blood Drive Sign Up in Narthex



St. John Bosco Council 12846 of the **Knights of Columbus** are collecting **NEW** coats for kids (infants to teenagers) after all Masses on November 14th and 15th, 2026. All coats collected will be donated to local charities (e.g., Lorton Community Action Center, ECHO and The Catholic Charities Christ House). Coats can be any size, and boxes will be in the Narthex and at all exits to collect them. Donations (cash/check/card) will also be accepted. Please use this QR Code for card donations. Money donated will be used to purchase new coats and given to the charities above. Your support is greatly appreciated.



SAINT RAYMOND'S LOVES LIFE

Life is on the line!

Catholics VOTE NO in November!

CatholicsVoteNo.com

Thank you to all who joined our three priests and fellow parishioners in participating in **LIFE CHAIN** last Sunday. If you weren't there, we missed you!



Put your faith into action and join with other people of good will. Our witness weekend will be 31 Oct- 1 Nov with other Saturday opportunities before then. Sign Up Sheets are in the narthex. Our location for this peaceful prayerful witness is on the sidewalk in front of the Falls Church Healthcare Center 900 S Washington Street. Non graphic signs. Can you spare one hour?! Come with friends. Bring the family. Bring your rosary. 40daysforlife.org.

... and remember if you are unable to be physically present, please offer up your prayers and sacrifices from home or from church. God hears our prayers wherever we are!

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, founder of this ministry, will be available in the narthex after the **7pm Mass on Wednesday 4 November** to visit with you and answer questions.

Did you know that there's a 24/7 Life Affirming Chatbot? Introducing Olive chat.ai. Almost 80% of Gen Z and Millennials use AI to get answers. Olive — life-affirming AI assistant. ewtn.co.uk/olive-ai-chatbot-provides-women-pro-life-alternatives-ewtn-pro-life-weekly/

MaRiH Pregnancy Care Center... Thank you for the continued steady stream of overwhelming material support! May God bless you for your goodness. Diapers are always so very much appreciated. **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**

Gabriel Project: Pregnancy Outreach for Expectant Mothers. Offers emotional, spiritual, material, and financial support through a pregnancy helpline and parish-based volunteer "Angel" support. helpforpregnantwomen.org. 866-444-3553.

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 Grades 6-12

10/10:gh School Swing Dance this aturday 7-9pm Parish Hall

All high school students are invited!come at 6:45 as we will start right at 7pm. **We have instructors**so please don't worry if you have never danced before. Most of the folks who have been attending had neverbefore, but now are quite good! See flyer or email for more info.*Mark the date & tell your friends! No cost!* Make sure to bring a completed YA Info. sheet if you have not turned one in yet this year.

10/11/26 NO Youth Group or Religious Ed (Columbus Day)

10/13: Talitha Koum: High School Girls' Group 7-8:30pm 2nd & 4th Tuesday's (Maurer Rm)

ALL High School Ladies are invited to become part of our authentic sisterhood in Christ, deepening our faith, sharing life & growing in holiness. It's a real special time of friendship together, immersing ourselves in the Good, True & Beautiful.

10/25: HIGH SCHOOL RALLY (11AM-9PM)

LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP for the Diocese of Arlington's High School RALLY. Join hundreds of high school students from across the diocese for Mass with Bishop Burbidge, Eucharistic Adoration, inspirational speakers and entertainers, breakout sessions, inflatable games, music, food and more! Cost \$30/person, includes pizza, Rita's Ice, snacks, t-shirt and admission! <http://bit.ly/YAforms>

PERMISSION SLIPS & PAYMENT DUE MONDAY 10/12

10/18 Youth Group & Religious Ed.

NO Middle School Youth Group

5-6:30pm Religious Ed

6:30-8pm High School Youth Group

6:30am Morning Mass & Breakfast (every Friday in October)

All 6-12th graders are invited to add Mass before class as a part of your Friday sacrifice, then come downstairs for breakfast with Fr. Bergida & Fr. Horkan before school! Please RSVP by Wednesday night, at <https://bit.ly/FRIDAYRSVPS> so we have enough food!

10/24 HS Apple Picking & Dominican Monastery (8am-1:15pm)

All high school students are invited to join us on our annual trip to Hartland Orchard to pick fresh apples for our upcoming pie sale! After apples, we will join the nuns at the Dominican Monastery for midday pray and then have a picnic lunch before heading back. No cost. Chaperones/driver needed. <http://bit.ly/YAforms>

Permission slips due Oct. 20.

Do you enjoy cooking?

Would you be willing to contribute a breakfast casserole or other meatless dish one Friday this semester? More details can be found at <https://bit.ly/breakfastfriday> We are also in need of folks willing to contribute a simple meal or dessert one Sunday eveningour high school youth group. Many families contribute, but we still have several dates with no meal accounted for. More details can be found at <https://bit.ly/feedthehungryteens>

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

A new **YA Info. Sheet** is **REQUIRED** to be turned in once **each school year** for every child *prior* to participating in any Youth Apostolate event on or off site. <http://bit.ly/YAforms>

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

There will be **no CCD classes October 11 or 12** in observance of the Columbus Day holiday.

Reminder to parents of 2027 Confirmation candidates:
REQUIRED Confirmation Retreat is this Saturday, October 17th! You should have received more details by email.

October is the Month of the Holy Rosary!

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

PLEASE participate in the Daily Family Rosary in our church, Monday - Friday at 6:30 pm and/or Saturday & Sunday after 9 am Mass during the month of October and beyond!

OUR LADY OF RANSOM Scholarships to Catholic Schools. St. Raymond's offers 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 at 703-440-0535.

CHRIST HOUSE. Our next Christ House Dinner will be Friday, October 30, 2026. We will need help with driving the meals to Christ House, a few people to help serve at Christ House, and some help preparing the bags at the St. Raymond's kitchen. The food as usual will be provided by the American Legion, and the rest purchased by the committee. Besides the physical help, monetary contributions are greatly appreciated, and can be made through the parish office. As always, thank you very much for your continued generous help.



CHURCH PERSECUTED

Contrary to what some individuals believe, religious freedom does not mean “freedom from religion.” Rather, it means “freedom to *live/practice* one’s faith without condemnation or persecution.” This is one of the founding freedoms of America.

The City of Los Angeles recently received both an “October surprise” and an early Christmas gift: “The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit upheld the right of Los Angeles to display a century-old cross and Nativity scene in a historic district.” After an atheist attempted to legally assert that the display was not constitutional, the federal court ruled that the display does not, in fact, violate the First Amendment.

A lower court had already rejected this case, and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals chose not to overturn that decision. This is a real win for traditional American values.

“The ruling reinforces the principle that longstanding religious symbols in public settings are not automatically unconstitutional. Courts have increasingly recognized the historical and cultural significance of such displays rather than viewing them solely through a modern secular lens. Preserving these expressions of faith aligns with the values that shaped America’s founding. Communities across the nation continue to defend their right to honor their religious heritage without fear of legal erasure.”

This is indeed a common sense victory for religious advocates, and what better location than Los Angeles, CA?

<https://www.faithfreedomreport.com/federal-court-upholds-century-old-cross-and-nativity-display-in-los-angeles/>

Special Announcement

As we were going to press, we received word that The Catholic League is releasing its new documentary, “**Religious Liberty Under Siege**,” on **Newsmax and Newsmax2 Sunday, October 11 at 7:00 p.m. ET.**

The documentary details how ordinary Americans have had their religious rights abused by government. What they went through is riveting. Experts from all faiths including Catholics explain why this is happening and what it portends for the future of religious liberty in America. Speakers include: Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone, Dr. Robert George and others.

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Questions? Email us at formed@straymonds.org.

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.

Openings still available for students at Angelus Academy

We love having St. Raymond parishioners at our school. What a blessing it is to be learning together! We are continuing to accept applications for the 2026-2027 school year as space permits. Spots are filling up fast—apply soon! Application information can be found at

angelusacademy.org/admissions-overview/applying/. Call or email Julie Maimone, Director of Admissions, for more information or to schedule a tour: admissions@angelusacademy.org or 703.924.3996 x18. We are located at 7644 Dynatech Court in Springfield, just down the parkway from St. Raymond.

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.

GIVING TREE—Each year, Saint Raymond’s “adopts” families who need help with Christmas. If your family or someone you know could use help providing gifts for their children, please contact the Parish Office at 703-440-0535 or office@straymonds.org. Information is kept confidential. Applications are due October 31st but please try to turn in prior to that to help us.

WE ARE IN NEED OF USHERS—If you would like to volunteer, please contact headushers@straymonds.org.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY There will be two classes each Monday— one in the morning at 9:30 am in the Parish Hall and the same class in the evening at 7pm in the Maurer Room. Come to the one that is most convenient. The topic: Jerusalem Will Be Built with Gold: The Preamble to the New Testament. Seven books have been excluded from the Protestant canon of Scripture and kept by the Catholic Church: Baruch, Sirach, Wisdom, Judith, Tobit, and 1&2 Maccabees, along with portions of Daniel and Esther. They are a brilliant gem in her crown, “a wholly indispensable link in the economy of revelation,” connecting the world of the Hebrew Bible to the life and times of Christ. Please join us and bring your bible.

Second Collection this week is Porto Charities.
Second Collection next week is World Mission Sunday.

Offertory Collection Totals

October 4, 2026 and Online Giving

Offertory	14,295.00	55,711.00
Financial Assistance	1,919.00	4,720.00
Maintenance Fund	1,276.00	30,492.00
Our Lady of Ransom	973.00	12,339.00



Diocesan is proud to be printing

St. Raymond of Peñafort's Sunday Bulletin

You are invited to help support our Parish!

For opportunities to advertise, please contact
Lisa Sparkman at 717-507-3766 or lsarkman@diocesan.com



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