

"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 Naduvilekunel,	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
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EMAILS:

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.

Welcome to Saint Raymond of Peñafort Catholic Church

8750 Pohick Road
Springfield, VA 22153

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm

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

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday-Friday:

6:30 am & 8:30 am

7:00 pm on Wednesdays

Saturday: 9:00 am

WEBSITE: www.straymonds.org

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

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 #2 [What follows is shortened version of my homily from Oct. 11.]

In the Old Testament God's love is often symbolized by His gift of an abundance of the choicest food. In today's first reading, Isaiah says: "the LORD of hosts will provide for all peoples a feast of rich food and choice wines."

For the ancient Jews, there was one meal on earth that people would spend lots of money to provide the most delicious treats and finest wines in abundance. We do the same today. The meal I'm talking about is the wedding banquet.

Marriage was also an Old Testament symbol of the love of God for Israel, as He gives His passionate love and His very life. So when you combine these two themes of abundant food and marriage, the wedding feast becomes the symbol par excellence of God's love for Israel—heaven itself. So in today's Gospel Our Lord says: "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son."

This idea of the wedding feast as a symbol of God's love is revealed in Genesis, in the Garden of Eden. He creates man as male and female, the first married couple, and puts them in this luscious fruitful Garden and tells them: "you shall have them for food." The first wedding feast.

Now, we all know how delightful good food and drink can taste. And how food can also be nutritious and make us strong and healthy. But we also know the opposite is true. Bad food can make us sick, even kill us.

And sometimes food tastes very good, but it's still deadly. The deadliness of food also goes back to Genesis. God warns Adam and Eve not to eat from a particular tree or, "you will surely die." But after the devil tempts them, they think the apple, "was good for food." And so they ate what was bad for them, and were cast out of God's Garden of abundance.

My friends, not everything that looks or seems good is actually good for you; sometimes it's deadly. This is especially true when it comes to marriage. For years some have tried to convince us that something that is very bad for us is as good as marriage. That is so-called same-sex "marriage."

Back in 2014 the Supreme Court of the United States, in **Obergefell v. Hodges**, found a constitutional right to "same-sex marriage." But they were wrong, and we must continue to fight to fix that. And it seems to me that with the changes to the Supreme Court in the last few years there is a real possibility it may be overturned.

Which why in this current election the Virginia Assembly has proposed an amendment to the Virginia Constitution that will enshrine same-sex marriage in our Constitution. They are afraid that Obergefell will be overturned, in which case Virginia would go back to the old law which prohibits same-sex marriage. So if **they're afraid, we should be hopeful**, and not give up the fight for traditional marriage.

Marriage is between one male and one female. Scripture is very clear on this, but we don't need the Bible to tell us that. Just look at how men and women are naturally, and you see it. Male and female are not only obviously **physically** different, but scientists also tell us that even our **brains** work differently. But it's also clear that those differences also complement each other, complete each other. Man and woman, literally and figurative, fit together in every way.

And one of the remarkable gifts that comes from those differences fitting together is the creation of new life--babies!

For all of human history the union of one man and one woman to love each other and to raise children has been the source of stability and progress for civilized societies.

There is nothing more natural to mankind than heterosexual love and marriage. It's as natural and as healthy as eating good food.

But some say same-sex marriage is equally natural and good. How? Our bodies don't indicate this, nor do our brains.

Is it healthy? No—the bodies were obviously not made for this: study after study shows the health risks.

Some say, "but they love each other." But mutual love doesn't give you a right to sexually interact or to marry. Mothers and sons love each other, but they can't get married.

Some say, but "gays" were "born that way," so it's "natural to them." But, if someone is born with a heart defect, do we say, "that's great, it's natural!"

Some say, "but this doesn't affect 'straight' people, so don't worry about it" But that's not true. Like a body eating poisonous fruit, the whole body will get sick and even die.

For example, the amendment says, that "marriage is one of the vital personal rights essential to the orderly pursuit of happiness." This wording would establish the basic human right for **"any** two adults" to marry. Some say, "live and let live." But will you be saying that when they legalize polygamy or incest? And when, after changing the meaning of "marriage," they change the meaning of "parenthood"? What will you say when they declare you an "unfit parent" because you taught them that same-sex marriage, polygamy and incest are wrong?

Some say none of that can happen. But 50 years ago, no one even dreamed same-sex marriage could ever happen. In 1996, 68% opposed it, but now 65% support it.

So what do we do? One simple thing: we vote. The fate of traditional marriage, and the right to life, are on the ballot. It's no longer in the hands of the Supreme Court or the legislature. It's up to you. You have a clear choice to make: defend marriage, or destroy marriage.

In today's Gospel, what does the father say to his servants about the guest who came to the wedding not dressed respectfully? "Bind his hands and feet, and cast him into the darkness outside." Those who do not recognize the truth and dignity of marriage will be cast out of the wedding feast of heaven, out into the darkness of hell.

So as your spiritual father, in love, for the good of your immortal soul, I say to you: you must vote NO to Ballot question 2!

But we also need to pray. October is the month of the Rosary, so get those beads out and pray every day, asking Our Lord and His Mother to intervene to save marriage and family in Virginia.

And most importantly, there's the great prayer of Christ and His Church: the Eucharist, which is the fulfillment on earth of God's promise "provide for all peoples a feast of rich food and choice wines." Mass is the wedding feast of the Lord and His Bride the Church, the Supper of the Lamb of God, as we feast on finest food and wine: the Lord's own Body and Blood. So go before the Lord at Mass, His Marriage Feast, and pray that He may protect our nation from the poison of false notions of love and marriage.

Oremus pro invicem. Fr. De Celles

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, October 19th

6:30 am Carlo Enrico Javier +
8:30 am Yvonne Speed +

Tuesday, October 20th

6:30 am Chantal Dao +
8:30 am Devin Ichikawa

Wednesday, October 21st

6:30 am Edith Moore Urgino +
8:30 am Luce Brousseau +
7:00 pm Celebrant's Intentions

Thursday, October 22nd

6:30 am Carlo Enrico Javier +8:30
am Helen Marconi +

Friday, October 23rd

6:30 am Carlo Enrico Javier +
8:30 am William Sullivan +

Saturday, October 24th

9:00 am Julian Jensen +

Vigil Mass

5:00 pm Fr. De Celles
Antonacci Family

Sunday, October 25th

7:00 am Fr. Bergida
Joan and Jim Rowe

9:00 am Fr. De Celles
Parishioners

11:00 am Fr. Bergida
Eduardo Cascarro +

1:00 pm Fr. Horkan
Bill Roche +

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

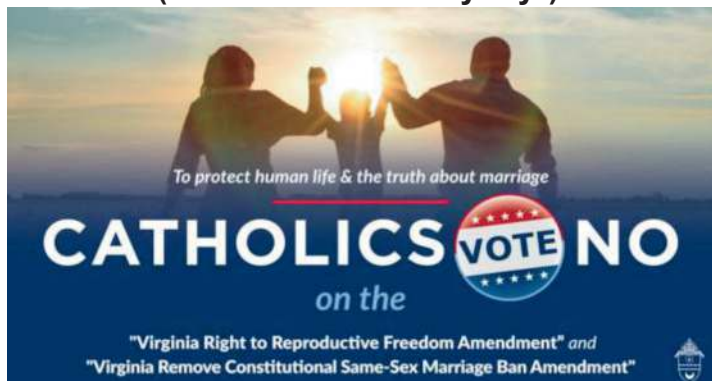
Robert Petitti
Alicia Tocconi
Jay & Linda Cabacar
Rita Felkel
Frankie Downs
Pauline Ferguson
Christy Shaiko
Lilia Unalivia

**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 18 Religious Education Classes
- Oct 18 Youth Apostolate Events (see YA schedule)
- Oct 19 Adult Bible Study 9:30 am in Parish Hall and 7 pm in Maurer Room (same class content)
- Oct 19 OCIA in Parish Hall at 7 pm
- Oct 20 Junior Legion of Mary 4:15 pm in Classroom 2
- Oct 20 Legion of Mary 6:30 pm in Library
- Oct 21 Adoration 9 am- 7pm
- Oct 23 Adoration 9 am –3pm
- Oct 24 WAY Men's Retreat
- 11/1 Donut Sunday
- 11/1 Reminder - Daylight Savings Time
- 11/1 All Saints Day - Masses at 7 am, 9 am, 11 am and 1 pm
- 11/2 All Souls Day - Masses at 6:30 am, 8:30 am and 7 pm
- 11/2-4 All Souls Day Triduum of Masses
- 11/3 Election Day - **Don't Forget to VOTE!**
- 11/3 Adoration after 8:30 am Mass until the polls close 7 pm
- 11/4 A Mom's Peace Mass 7 pm (Miscarried - Stillborn babies and thier Mothers)

OPEN HOUSE at John Paul the Great- Sunday, November Saint 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.



THE FULLNESS OF KNIGHTHOOD:



Join the Knights! Your very own St. John Bosco Council #12846 has been recognized as a prestigious STAR COUNCIL AWARD WINNER, one of the highest honors a Knights of Columbus council can achieve. This distinguished recognition reflects our council's excellence in charitable works, membership growth, faith formation, and service to our parish and community. Such an achievement is only possible through the dedication of strong Catholic men working together to serve their Church, community, and 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 Deputy Grand Knight, Gopal Sharma, at 571-451-5595 if you have any questions or would like to learn more about the many benefits of being a Knight. Get in the game, answer the call, **LIVE FULLY**; please call at cell number **(703) 380-4550** if you have any questions or want to learn more about the many benefits of being a Knight! Get in the game, answer the call, **LIVE FULLY; BECOME A KNIGHT!**

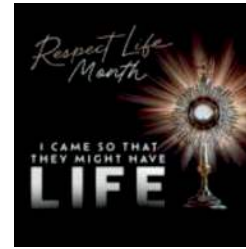
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE: The Knights of Columbus are holding a membership drive this weekend after all Masses. Please stop by their table in the Narthex and talk with the Knights on hand about the benefits of becoming a Knight where you'll be able to live your faith through charity, unity, fraternity and service.

Upcoming Events—OCTOBER—

- 17 Men's Prayer Group 7:30 am Parish Hall
- 17/18 Blood Drive Sign Up 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



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.

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

10/18 Youth Group & Religious Ed.

NO Middle School Youth Group

5-6:30pm Religious Ed

6:30-8pm High School Youth Group

10/20: Sons of Thunder: High School Guys' Group

7-8:30pm 1st & 3rd Tuesdays (Maurer Room)

High School Men: Come hungry (physically and intellectually) and ready to rumble. Sons of Thunder meets 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month from 7-8:30 pm in the Maurer Room with Phil, Nate, and Father Bergida.

10/20: Apple Picking & Monastery Permission Slips Due

10/23: 6:30am Mass & Breakfast (Every Fri 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.**



10/25: Youth Group & Religious Ed.

3:30-5pm Middle School Youth Group

5-6:30pm Religious Ed

NO High School Youth Group (due to RALLY)

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 evening our 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>.

Cookies & Prayers for Kairos Prison Ministry Retreat

Thank you to all who so generously signed up to cover the Kairos Prison ministry retreat in prayer and for all those who baked cookies for the prisoners they served! You totally outdid yourselves once again, going above and beyond with a total of **143** dozen cookies! Knowing that someone loves you enough to make you a delicious homemade treat to eat is a real tangible way to share the love of Christ. Thank you for sharing your gifts!

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

Mass Attendance Cards: Parents of students in grades 2, 7 and 8 are reminded that your child **should be submitting a Mass attendance card** every time they attend **weekend Mass** (Saturday Vigil / Sunday Masses). If your child attends Mass at a parish other than St. Raymond's, please pick up a bulletin, ask a priest or deacon to sign it if possible, **write the child's name** on it, and then drop it off in the RE Office at your earliest convenience.

October is the Month of the Holy Rosary! Please participate in the **Daily Family Rosary** in our church, Monday - Friday at 6:30 pm and Saturday & Sunday after 9 am Mass - during the month of October and beyond! Give us a call if you have any questions about participating! **Bishop Burbidge has asked us all to pray the Rosary each Sunday in October for the upcoming election.**

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.

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.

CHURCH PERSECUTED

Religious Liberty Under Siege” is the title of a documentary released last Sunday on Newsmax by the Catholic League. It is not a political message – not endorsing or opposing candidates for office, but it presents a message of the religious persecution during the last presidency and the continued religious persecution in some so-called “blue states” today. The Catholic League has posted the video at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EP6UKvEICRE>

It begins with the story of Mark Houck, the father of eight whose ministry includes praying at abortion facilities. He was arrested and charged after defending his young teen son who was being harassed by an abortion facility worker for praying before the clinic. After several court dates, the man who filed the complaint failed to show and the charges were dropped. Houck’s problems continued when the Biden Department of Justice showed up at his home, weapons drawn, to arrest Mark for violating the FACE (Freedom to Access Clinic Entrances) Act, an act championed by then-Senator Ted Kennedy and signed into law by President Clinton. Houck ultimately was acquitted.

The first portion of the video documents religious persecution: the Bremerton high school football coach who quietly knelt in prayer after each football game; the young fifth grade mentor who refused to read a “same-sex marriage” book to his young friend; a couple prevented from adopting children because of their religious beliefs; the forced closing of churches in San Francisco during COVID because they were not considered essential, although stores such as liquor stores were determined to be essential. Archbishop Cordileone from San Francisco clearly explained the illogic of the city’s decision.

Despite these situations, the Constitution prevailed as the Supreme Court has generally sided with sound religious liberty lawsuits for the past 25 years. The examples present a ray of hope and the importance of electing legislators and executives who believe in the principles enshrined in the First Amendment.

View the video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EP6UKvEICRE>.

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Formed is available for FREE! To set up an account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

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.

28th ANNUAL MEN’S DAY OF RECOLLECTION IN HONOR OF CHRIST THE KING HE LOOKED UPON THEM WITH PITY: On the superiority of Christianity over every other vision of God and Man. Consider the powerful resonating message of Jesus Christ in comparison with the despairing closed-systems of everything else. The 28th Annual Christ the King Men’s Day of Recollection, directed by Father Francis de Rosa, will be held on Saturday, Oct. 24 from 8:30am - 1:15pm at St. Raymond of Penafort Catholic Church. There is no charge for this event, but you must register before Oct. 20 to attend. Donations gratefully accepted. To register go to www.waywomen.com/mensretreat For more information, contact Sally Allman smwithham@verizon.net

Second Collection this week is World Mission Sunday.

Offertory Collection Totals October 11, 2026

Offertory	13,524.00
Financial Assistance	1,178.00
Maintenance Fund	1,510.00
Our Lady of Ransom	1,307.00
Porto Charities	1,324.00



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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