

TODAY'S READINGS

When God called Moses from the burning bush, he launched him on one of the longest, most significant journeys in history—and began by telling him: “Remove the sandals from your feet” (Exodus 3:5). Why would God say that?

The second half of the verse offers a reason: “The place where you stand is holy ground.” Imagine how fast Moses obeyed! In Egypt, where he grew up, people were required to go barefoot before Pharaoh or any other superior. It was both an expression of respect and an admission of a lower-status position. Standing before the greatest Lord of all, whose glory shimmered out like an invisible force field, Moses must have felt awed and humble indeed.

What does this tell us about our approach to prayer? Without any burning bushes to jolt us, it's easy to relate to God casually, even as if it's something of a chore. The image of Moses removing his sandals reminds us that our loving Father is an awesome God whose holiness we cannot even begin to comprehend. It tells us to approach him with reverence, humility, and an awareness of our sin and frailty. But the scene speaks to us in other ways as well.

Shoes and sandals get dirty, and still today in many cultures and homes, people take them off before entering the house. In a way, that's what we're called to do when we come before God. Grimy footwear can also symbolize the distractions that pop up when we pray. If this happens, we can follow the advice of St. Alphonsus Liguori and try our best to leave all extraneous thoughts at the door of our prayer time. We can also say, along with St. Bernard: “O my thoughts, wait here. After prayer we shall speak about other matters.”

So as you go to pray today, take off your sandals! The One who called Moses is calling you!

*“Father, who am I that you should love me so much—enough to give up your only Son for my sake? Help me to set aside everything that separates me from you and to return your love as fully as I can.”*

Taken from *The Word Among Us*, Lent 2010, Vol. 29, Number 3: Used with permission.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

<b>Monday 8th</b>	2 Kgs 5:1-15b / Lk 4:24-30
<i>St. John of God</i>	
<b>Tuesday 9th</b>	Dn 3:25,34-43 / Mt 18:21-35
<i>St. Frances of Rome</i>	
<b>Wednesday 10th</b>	Dt 4:1,5-9 / Mt 5:17-19
<b>Thursday 11th</b>	Jer 7:23-28 / Lk 11:14-23
<b>Friday 12th</b>	Hos 14:2-10 / Mk 12:28-34
<b>Saturday 13th</b>	Hos 6:1-6 / Lk 18:9-14
<b>Sunday 14th</b>	Jos 5:9a,10-12 / 2 Cor 5:17-21 / Lk 15:1-3,11-32

THIRD WEEK OF LENT –

THE BURNING BUSH AND THE CALL OF MOSES

Today we hear the call of Moses to lead his people from oppression to freedom. God promises to be with them as they journey to a new life. Our participation in Catholic Relief Services' Operation Rice Bowl unites us in prayer, fasting, and giving with the millions of people throughout the world who are oppressed by poverty, injustice, war, disease, and lack of education and other opportunities.

LAS LECTURAS DE HOY

Los recién casados conocen la angustia y la desilusión que causa la primera rencilla seria. La discordia nunca es agradable, ¡pero cuando es entre recién casados, el estómago se aprieta el doble! Y mientras más se dejen desatendidos estos desencuentros y los sentimientos que generan, producen más y más confusión y agitación. Finalmente, uno termina por olvidarse de la causa de la pelea, pero la incomodidad de los sentimientos no desaparece fácilmente. Sin embargo, cuando uno se da cuenta de que no está experimentando el amor y la felicidad que esperaba, pareciera que el enojo se justifica más. Aquel deseo de percibir una completa unión entre ambos esposos es lo que finalmente produce la “la reconciliación” en cualquier matrimonio en construcción.

Esta es una manera de entender el Sacramento de la Reconciliación. A nadie le gusta perderse algo bueno, especialmente si eso “bueno” es el amor de Dios. Si uno se deja motivar por la idea de estarse perdiendo el amor de Dios, casi naturalmente buscará el arrepentimiento, para saldar las cuentas pendientes con el Señor y recuperar la amistad y la cercanía a su corazón. Luego, ya reconciliado con el Padre, uno puede volver al mundo para empezar de nuevo con una confianza renovada.

Trata de comprender lo que significa que nuestro pecado jamás bloquea el amor de Dios. Las advertencias que nos da Jesús en el Evangelio de hoy no tienen el propósito de asustarnos ni hacernos creer que Dios es vengativo; más bien, son palabras estimulantes que nos enseñan que el Señor desea purificarnos y llenarnos de su presencia.

Este es el valor del Sacramento de la Confesión. El Señor sabe que el pecado debilita al pecador, y por eso derrama tanta gracia en este sacramento, para hacernos más fuertes. Cuando admitimos honestamente las faltas que hemos cometido, recibimos la absolución del sacerdote y cumplimos la penitencia, podemos tener la plena seguridad de que Dios nos ungirá con su óleo curativo, que penetra en el corazón y nos llena del gozo de su misericordia. ¡Ojalá todos recibamos esta gracia en esta Cuaresma!

*“Jesús, Señor y Dios mío, te ruego que por el Sacramento de la Reconciliación, llegue a experimentar tu abrazo, para llenarme de tu misericordia, amor y sanación.”*

Escogida con el permiso de *La Palabra Entre Nosotros*, Vol. 29, Número 2: Febrero/Marzo 2010.

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

<b>Lunes 8</b>	2 Re 5:1-15 / Lc 4:24-30
<i>San Juan de Dios</i>	
<b>Martes 9</b>	Dn 3:25,34-43 / Mt 18:21-35
<i>Santa Francisca Romana</i>	
<b>Miércoles 10</b>	Dt 4:1,5-9 / Mt 5:17-19
<b>Jueves 11</b>	Jer 7:23-28 / Lc 11:14-23
<b>Viernes 12</b>	Os 14:2-10 / Mc 12:28-34
<b>Sábado 13</b>	Os 6:1-6 / Lc 18:9-14
<b>Domingo 14</b>	Jos 5:9-12 / 2 Cor 5:17-21 / Lc 15:1-3;11-32

VIA CRUCIS

El Vía Crucis, revisado por el Papa Juan Pablo II, se rezará en Inglés los viernes a las 6 de la tarde y en español los domingos a las 2:15 de la tarde durante la Cuaresma. Les invitamos a unirse a nosotros en esta devoción cuaresmal.

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

### THE SCRUTINIES

The season of Lent coincides with the Purification and Enlightenment phase of the RCIA process. During this phase, our members of the Elect and our Candidates are called to intensify their prayer lives and discern more deeply their desire to join the Church. As the larger parish community, we are called to help them develop their relationship with God and the Church and to pray for them. The celebration of the Scrutinies, which will be on the third, fourth, and fifth Sundays of Lent, **March 7, 14, and 21** at the 5:30pm Mass, is an important part of the Purification and Enlightenment phase. During the Scrutinies, we look within ourselves to find anything that keeps us from Christ and then look to Christ to heal those weaknesses and to strengthen us as we face further temptations.

### BOOK CLUB: SPIRIT OF THE LITURGY

Please join the St. Matthew's Book Club this Monday, **March 8**, when we discuss *Spirit of the Liturgy* written by John Cardinal Ratzinger. Cardinal Ratzinger (now Pope Benedict XVI) explains the importance of the liturgy and why it is the center of our spiritual life. The meeting will begin at 6:50pm in the West Conference Room, which is located in the alleyway next to the Cathedral. All are welcome. If you have questions, contact Paul Zummo at pzummo@gmail.com.

### THINKING ABOUT BECOMING CATHOLIC?

The next Inquiry session for those interested in learning more about the process of becoming Catholic and/or the basics of the Catholic faith will be this Wednesday, **March 10**, from 6:30pm to 7:30pm in the East Conference Room. Drop-ins are welcome. Contact Heather Kinney at 202-347-3215 x530 or hkinney@stmatthewscathedral.org if you have questions.

### THE LENTEN LITURGIES AND OUR LIVES

Join us this Wednesday, **March 10**, from 12:45pm to 1:45pm or this Thursday, **March 11** from 7pm to 8pm for the third lecture of our annual Lenten series. Fr. James Wallace, CSsR, Professor of Word and Worship at Washington Theological Union, will speak on "The Lenten Scriptures." Both lectures will be held in the North Conference Room.

### THE LIGHT IS ON—CONFESSIONS & ADORATION

This Lent, St. Matthew's will offer Confessions in English and Spanish on *Wednesday evenings, 6:30-8pm* in addition to our regular Confessions (Monday-Friday, 11am-Noon, and Saturdays, 4-5pm). On these evenings, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel beginning right after the 5:30pm Mass until Benediction at 8pm. Come for quiet prayer and experience forgiveness and reconciliation with the Father through the Son!

### SIMPLE LENTEN MEALS

We serve Simple Lenten Meals in the North Conference Room on the Friday evenings of Lent, following the 6pm Stations of the Cross. Join us for the sustenance of food and fellowship! Each Friday we collect donations to benefit a different community-based organization in Washington, DC. Contact Teresa Volante at 202-347-3215 x552 or tvolante@stmatthewscathedral.org for more information.

### WELCOME!

*If you are a visitor to the Cathedral, we want you to know how welcome you are—whether you have come from another part of the country, from across the world, or from another parish here in the Archdiocese or across the river. Thank you for praying with us. Thank you also for your generosity, which helps us to celebrate our liturgies in a fitting and beautiful way, and to offer a wide range of services to needy people in the Washington, DC area. Enjoy your visit!*

### CATHEDRAL BOOK AND NOTE CARDS

*The St. Matthew's parish community is pleased to announce the publication of a new souvenir book on our beautiful Cathedral church. The 48-page book features the Cathedral's history, art and architecture vividly portrayed through photographs by local photographer, Neil Greentree. We are also offering sets of six note cards picturing the art of the Cathedral. Books and cards are available at the rectory, 1725 Rhode Island Avenue, NW, during regular office hours.*

### TERCERA SEMANA DE CUARESMA:

#### LA ZARZA ARDIENTE Y EL LLAMADO A MOISÉS

Hoy escuchamos el llamado de Moisés a sacar a su pueblo de la opresión y llevarlo a la libertad. Dios promete estar con ellos en su paso a una nueva vida. Nuestra participación en la Operación Plato de Arroz de Catholic Relief Services nos une en oración, ayuno y donativos con los millones de personas del mundo entero que están oprimidas a causa de la pobreza, injusticia, guerra, enfermedad, falta de escuelas y otras oportunidades.

### DÍA DE REFLEXIÓN POR CUARESMA

Todos los miembros de la comunidad Hispana, están invitados a una mañana de reflexión espiritual, este **21 de Marzo** de 8:30 al 2:30 del mediodía. El tema será: **Conversión Encuentro con el Padre**. Este retiro se ofrece en el salón de conferencias del Norte para adultos y salón de conferencias del Este para niños.

### CICLO DE CONFERENCIAS DE CUARESMA 2010

Las charlas de Cuaresma continúan este martes **9 de Marzo**. La Cuaresma es una época en la cual la Iglesia nos pide que reflexionemos sobre nuestra vida y tener una "**Buena Relación**" con Dios y los demás. Es también tiempo de reconciliación. Por eso, esta Cuaresma, la Catedral ofrecerá un ciclo de conferencias en español. Estas charlas serán en el salón de conferencias del Oeste los martes a las 7:00 de la noche, durante el grupo de Oración. Estas charlas son gratuitas y abiertas al público.

#### SEMANA 3: CRISTO AGUA VIVA

Martes **9 de Marzo** a las 7:00 de la noche

#### SEMANA 4: CRISTO LUZ EN LAS TINIEBLAS

Martes **16 de Marzo** a las 7:00 de la noche



CATHEDRAL BULLETIN CALENDAR  
CALENDARIO DE LA CATEDRAL

MARCH 7 – MARCH 14



**SUNDAY**—A second collection for Cathedral maintenance is taken at all Masses.

Hospitality receptions are held in the North Conference Room after all Masses except the 7am Mass and the 1pm Mass.

Las clases de Catequesis, Catecumenado y Catequesis Familiar se reúnen a las 11:00 de la mañana.

**El Vía Crucis** se rezará (en español) a las 2:15pm.

**MONDAY**—The Book Club meets at 6:50pm in the West Conference Room.

The Liturgy Committee meets at 6:45pm in the East Conference Room.

**TUESDAY**—Las Charlas de Cuaresma continúan hoy a las 7:00 de la tarde en el salón de conferencias del Oeste.

**WEDNESDAY**—A Lenten Lecture is given at 12:45pm in the North Conference Room.

Confessions are held in the Cathedral in English and Spanish from 6:30pm to 8pm. Eucharistic Adoration is held in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel from 6pm to 8pm.

Breaking Open the Word meets at 7pm in the West Conference Room.

**THURSDAY**—Wednesday's Lenten Lecture is repeated at 7pm in the North Conference Room.

**FRIDAY**—**Stations of the Cross** are prayed at 6pm, followed by Simple Lenten Meals served in the North Conference Room.

**SUNDAY**—The Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus speak at all Masses.

Las clases de Catequesis, Catecumenado y Catequesis Familiar se reúnen a las 11:00 de la mañana.

The Cathedral Club meets after the 11:30am Mass in the West Conference Room.

**El Vía Crucis** se rezará (en español) a las 2:15pm.

Always Our Children meets at 3:30pm in the West Conference Room.

Laetare Vespers are held at 4pm in the Cathedral.

**ADULT CONFIRMATION PREPARATION**

Did you know that St. Matthew's offers a 5-week preparation program for adults who have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation? We invite all baptized adult Catholics who have received First Eucharist but not Confirmation to take advantage of this great opportunity! Sessions will be held on Thursdays, **April 15, 22, 29 and May 6, 13** from 7pm to 8:30pm with a retreat on Saturday, **May 15**. We will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Pentecost Sunday, May 23. For more information or to register, contact Heather Kinney at 202-347-3215 x530 or [hkinney@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:hkinney@stmatthewscathedral.org) or. (*This preparation is only for those baptized Catholics who celebrated their First Reconciliation and First Eucharist as children. For others, contact Heather Kinney to discuss participation in the RCIA process.*)

**FAITH IN ACTION AT  
ST. MATTHEW'S CATHEDRAL**

**St. Matthew's Homeless Ministry** provides for the material and spiritual needs of 55-70 homeless adults in our community. The program operates from 7:30am to 11am on Mondays. Most volunteers serve every other Monday. We always need new volunteers to make bag lunches once a month, bring breakfast foods, or serve on Monday mornings. If you are interested in this ministry, contact Teresa Volante at [tvolante@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:tvolante@stmatthewscathedral.org) or 202-347-3215 x552.

**Clothing donations.** If you have new or gently used men's or women's casual clothing (jeans, shorts, belts, t-shirts, sweaters, sneakers, etc.) to donate or want to purchase items that are most needed, contact Teresa (contact info above) to make arrangements. Donations will not be accepted at the door without prior approval, nor can we accept dress clothes, household items, dirty or damaged items, or small-sized women's clothing. Thank you for your understanding.

**SHARE IN HOPE FOOD DRIVE**

Hunger is an ever-present reality in our community. Local food pantries are experiencing a great demand for food. To help replenish supplies, Catholic Charities and the Archdiocese of Washington together are sponsoring the Share in Hope Food Drive this Lent. Our parish collection for the food drive will take place the weekend of **March 13-14**. Bags for your donations will be passed out this weekend. When you come to Mass next weekend, **March 13-14**, please leave your donation at the front doors. Our collection will be donated to the Capital Area Food Bank. Please be generous with your contribution. If you wish, you may make a contribution to "Catholic Charities" with a note that it is for the food drive. Thank you for all you do to help the needy among us.

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE**

This spring cities across the nation are uniting for a unique pro-life campaign called 40 Days for Life. From **February 17 through March 28**, 40 days of around-the-clock, peaceful prayer is being undertaken outside local abortion clinics. There are two prayer vigil locations in the DC area: the Planned Parenthood clinic in northwest DC and the Metropolitan Family Planning clinic in Berwyn Heights, MD. Participate by signing up to join in one of the prayer vigils and/or joining in prayer and fasting throughout the 40 days. For more information, visit [www.40daysforlife.com/washington](http://www.40daysforlife.com/washington) or [www.40daysforlife.com/berwynheights](http://www.40daysforlife.com/berwynheights).

**ARCHDIOCESAN  
SOCIAL MINISTRY GATHERING**

Parishioners involved or interested in social ministry are invited to a spring gathering to help you meet volunteers from other parishes, share information, learn what other parishes are doing, and grow in ministry. The gathering will be held on Saturday, **March 20**, from 1pm to 3pm at St. Martin's Catholic Church, 1900 North Capitol Street, NW, in the Pioneer Room in the lower level of church. Enter by T Street using the second set of steps. All are welcome. For more information, call Tony Bosnick at 301-853-5340.

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

### 2010 ARCHBISHOP'S APPEAL

Earlier this year, you were provided with information about the 2010 Archbishop's Appeal during Mass. A gift to the Archbishop's Appeal will touch the lives of many others in a very positive way. To all of you who have generously responded this year, thank you so very much. If you haven't given to the 2010 Appeal already, please give the decision careful consideration. Your generous support of the 2010 campaign is needed and will result in an improved quality of life for many throughout the Church of Washington. Thank you for your consideration and generous response.

### ANNUAL MISSIONARY COOPERATIVE

The Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus is a Religious Congregation of women founded in Nigeria in 1931 to empower women, children and the underserved through education, health care, and social work. The sisters minister to transform the underprivileged, sick, orphans, widows, poor and needy in the remotest parts of the Sierra, Kenya, Togo, Ghana, Cameroon, etc. Sister Felicia will be speaking at all Masses next weekend, **March 13-14**, and accepting donations for the ministry. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS (VIA CRUCIS)

The Via Crucis is a journey made in the Holy Spirit, that divine fire that burned in the heart of Jesus (cf Lk 1: 49-50) and brought him to Calvary. The Stations of the Cross, in the form adopted by Pope John Paul II, will be prayed in English on Fridays at 6pm and in Spanish on Sundays at 2:15pm throughout Lent and on Good Friday, **April 2**. Please join us for this beautiful devotion, which is particularly fitting for Lent.

### LENTEN FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, **April 2**, are days of fast and abstinence. All Catholics who have reached their 18th birthday and are less than 60 years of age are bound to observe the fast, by which they are limited to a single full meal during the course of the day. All Catholics who have reached their 14th birthday must observe days of abstinence, during which no meat may be eaten. Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.

### 2010 ANNUAL JUBILARIAN MASS

The annual Jubilarian Celebration of marriage honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 50+ years will be held Sunday, **June 6**, at 2:30pm at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Archbishop Wuerl will preside at the Mass. To register, call 202-587-5143 before April 30.

### ENGAGED? DID YOU KNOW....?

The Cathedral is booked through the end of the year for Saturday afternoon wedding celebrations. Morning and evening weddings are possible, but those times are being reserved as well. If you are interested in having your wedding at St. Matthew's, we suggest that you call the rectory and speak to one of our clergy as soon as possible upon your engagement.

### CAMPAÑA DEL ARZOBISPO 2010

A principio de este año, se les dio información acerca de la Colecta Anual del Arzobispo 2010, durante las misas. Una donación a la Colecta del Arzobispo influirá en las vidas de muchas personas de una forma muy positiva. A todos los que ya han respondido generosamente, ¡muchas gracias! Si todavía no ha dado a esta colecta del 2010, por favor, considere el hacerlo. Su apoyo para esta campaña es muy importante y los resultados serían de una gran mejora y calidad en la vida de muchas personas a través de la Iglesia en Washington. Gracias por considerar y responder a esta colecta.

### CONFESIONES LOS MIERCOLES DE CUARESMA Y ADORACIÓN AL SANTÍSIMO

En este tiempo de Cuaresma, la Catedral de San Mateo tendrá confesiones disponibles todos los miércoles de Cuaresma de 6:30 a 8 de la noche, además del horario regular de confesiones (lunes-viernes, 11-12 y sábados 4-5 de la tarde) tendremos confesiones en Inglés y Español, exceptuando el Miércoles de Ceniza. Durante estas noches habrá exposición del Santísimo Sacramento en la capilla, después de la Misa de 5:30 de la tarde. ¡Venga a pasar un rato de oración y reflexión y experimente el perdón del Padre a través del Hijo!

### GRUPO DE APOYO

El Proyecto Raquel, un ministerio patrocinado por la Arquidiócesis de Washington, ha organizado este grupo de apoyo para las mujeres que sienten vergüenza, culpabilidad, tristeza y otras emociones difíciles que llegan después de un aborto. Las reuniones del grupo de apoyo son los martes y aun hay espacio disponible. Para información, incluyendo el lugar donde se llevara a cabo puede llamar o enviar un correo a Luz Menjívar 301-853-4565 ProyectoRaquel@adw.org. Todos los contactos son confidenciales.

### MASS INTENTIONS MARCH 7-MARCH 13

**SUNDAY:** 5:30pm (Vigil) Adoracion Morao; 7am Dorothy Conocchioli; 8:30am All Parishioners; 10am David Treen; 11:30am Nancy McKinley; 1pm Gloria Aybar; 5:30pm Cindy Hogman (living).

**MONDAY:** 7am Josephine Klug Kuhn; 8am Doris Murray; 12:10pm Mario & Norma Di Battista; 5:30pm Francisca N. Pinto.

**TUESDAY:** 7am Nina De La Cruz; 8am Martha Junkins; 12:10pm Robert Perry (living); 5:30pm Luis Arnoldo Poblete Bravo.

**WEDNESDAY:** 7am Dr. Lawrence Brimacombe; 8am Victims of Earthquake in Chile (living); 12:10pm John & Margaret Rooney; 5:30pm Walter C. Wong (living).

**THURSDAY:** 7am Marian Curley Blawie; 8am Bich Nguyen; 12:10pm Russell & Dorothy Gunsales; 5:30pm Josephine Klug Kuhn.

**FRIDAY:** 7am Josephine Klug Kuhn; 8am Mary Agnes Blum; 12:10pm Philip Cunningham; 5:30pm Ms. Angelina Admana.

**SATURDAY:** 8am Rosalie P. Gerber; 12:10pm Modesto Barreiro; 5:30pm Joseph & Elizabeth Conway.

**VOCATIONS CORNER**

**FEEL CALLED TO THE PERMANENT DIACONATE?** The Archdiocesan Office of the Permanent Diaconate is interested in speaking with men who have an interest in serving the local church by becoming a permanent deacon. Learn more about the diaconate at [www.adw.org/vocations/deacons.asp](http://www.adw.org/vocations/deacons.asp). The site includes contact information, admissions criteria and a brief description of a deacon's role in the Church today.

**CATHOLIC SISTERS IN AMERICA—Women & Spirit: Catholic Sisters in America** is the newest exhibit at The Ripley Center of the Smithsonian National Gallery, open **through April 25**. Rare artifacts and photographs from more than 400 communities highlight the role of Catholic sisters in American life. The S. Dillon Ripley Center is located on Jefferson Drive between the Smithsonian "Castle" and the Freer Gallery of Art.

**SUPPORT GROUP—PROJECT RACHEL**

Project Rachel Ministry is hosting a support group for women who have feelings of shame, guilt, sadness and other difficult emotions relating to their abortion experience. The group meets on Tuesday evenings and space is still available. For additional information, including location, contact Julia Shelava at 301-853-4565 or [ProjectRachel@adw.org](mailto:ProjectRachel@adw.org). All contacts are confidential.

**LIVE JESUS 2010**

The Oblates of St. Francis de Sales invite you to attend the seventh annual "Live Jesus," a morning of Lenten reflection and renewal through the lens of Salesian spirituality, on Saturday, **March 13**, from 8:30am to 1pm at Bishop Ireton High School in Alexandria, VA. The theme is "Jesus, Beauty, and Me: Looking for God Beneath the Surface" and will include Morning Prayer and Mass celebrated by Fr. Jim Greenfield, OSFS, Oblate Provincial. Free-will offerings will be gratefully accepted for the support of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales and their ministries. Continental breakfast and lunch provided. Register at [www.oblates.org](http://www.oblates.org).

**PREVIEW OF OPERATIC TABLEAU**

**BASED ON THE PASSION TO BENEFIT HAITI**

*Oh My Son*, an operatic tableau based on the Passion, will be previewed at Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church, 4835 MacArthur Boulevard, NW, on Sunday, **March 21**, at 5:30pm. Proceeds will benefit St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church and School in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. A flyer with ticket info is available in the back of the cathedral. Visit [www.seeohmyson.com](http://www.seeohmyson.com) or call 202-277-7787. (The World Premiere of *Oh My Son* will be April 10 at Carnegie Hall.)

**150th ANNIVERSARY OF**

**ST. ANN'S INFANT AND MATERNITY HOME**

On Sunday, **March 21**, at 10am, Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving in honor of St. Ann's Infant and Maternity Home's 150th Anniversary in the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. All are invited. RSVP to [events@stanns.org](mailto:events@stanns.org) or 301-559-5500 by March 15.

**SOLEMN GREGORIAN VESPERS**

The Schola Cantorum presents the Office of Vespers for Laetare Sunday, **March 14**, the Fourth Sunday of Lent at 4pm. The Office will be sung entirely in Latin, in Gregorian chant and the Renaissance polyphony of Orlando di Lasso, Melchior Vulpius and Heinrich Schütz. The liturgy will be presented according to the Roman *Liturgia Horarum*, complete with the censing of the altar during the singing of the Magnificat. Complete texts and translations will be provided. The annual celebration of Gregorian Vespers is one of the most popular musical events at the Cathedral each year. Join us and deepen your Lenten experience with the timeless beauty of Gregorian chant!

**LECTURE BY ARCHBISHOP WUERL**

Archbishop Donald Wuerl will deliver the Sixth Annual Little Flower/John Carroll Society Lecture, entitled *Why Priests?*, on Sunday, **March 21**, at 3pm at the Church of the Little Flower, 5607 Massachusetts Avenue, Bethesda. The lecture is a reflection on the 2009-2010 Year for Priests proclaimed by Pope Benedict XVI in celebration of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. John Vianney, the patron saint of parish priests worldwide. The year, the Pope declared, is "meant to deepen the commitment of all priests to interior renewal for the sake of a stronger and more incisive witness to the Gospel in today's world...." Admission is free. There is ample parking. For more information, call 301-320-4538 or visit [www.johncarrollssociety.org](http://www.johncarrollssociety.org). Admission is free and ample parking is available.

**VATICAN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBIT OF  
EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES  
AT OUR LADY OF VICTORY**

As Catholics, we believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. The consecrated host and wine are the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus, Our Lord. Throughout history, God has gifted us with miracles witnessed by many and authenticated by the Church to help our understanding and deepen our faith and knowledge of this wondrous mystery. This Lent learn more about these miracles at an exhibit in the vestibule of Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church, 4835 MacArthur Blvd., NW on Wednesday evenings of Lent, 6:30-8pm, during Confessions and Adoration. Part of the exhibit will be on display continuously throughout Lent, so drop in anytime. Free parking in the church lot. From MacArthur Blvd. heading towards Maryland, turn right at U Street and go ½ block to the lot on the right.

**NATIONAL GALLERY EXHIBIT OF  
THE SACRED MADE REAL**

Arrestingly real sculptures and paintings of the saints, the Immaculate Conception, and the Passion of Christ are among some 20 Spanish masterpieces of the 17th century on view in a landmark exhibition at the National Gallery of Art, East Building. *The Sacred Made Real: Spanish Painting and Sculpture, 1600-1700*, open **through May 31**, showcases paintings by Diego Velázquez, Francisco de Zurbarán, and Francisco Pacheco, with painted and gilded sculptures by Gregorio Fernández, Juan Martínez Montañés, and Pedro de Mena, among others.