

## TODAY'S READINGS

**Y***ou are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.*  
(Mark 1:11)

"He wants to be the bride at every wedding, the corpse at every funeral, and the baby at every christening." Ironically, the subject of this cynical remark was a world leader. Even though he often commanded center stage, he still craved attention. Deep down, most people do. To varying degrees, we're like those little kids who want someone to notice and affirm us: "Watch me jump! Look at this trick! See what I can do!"

Today's celebration conveys a message about this human craving. In fact, you might call the Baptism of the Lord the "Feast of Full Attention." The spotlight is on Jesus, who comes to John as just another penitent in the crowd. Then suddenly, he is singled out as uniquely cherished: the heavens are torn apart, the Spirit descends, and the Father's voice declares him "my beloved Son." What a stunning affirmation of Jesus' importance!

But here's something just as stunning: the Sacrament of Baptism brings us right into Jesus' own relationship with the Father! You don't have to strive for attention, wonder who you are, or question whether your life matters. If you've been baptized into Christ, what the Father spoke to Jesus, he speaks to you: "You are my beloved son. You are my beloved daughter." Yes, you need to be transformed into the likeness of Christ. And yes, that takes time. But as you make that journey, you can rest secure that you are already God's beloved child. Everything flows from that.

Today, as the Christmas season comes to a close, why not give one last gift? Offer God your full attention, as you reflect on your baptism. Let him reveal you to yourself and show you how greatly you are loved. As you give God your full attention, you will discover how much you have his.

*"Abba! Father! Thank you that I am your beloved child."*

Taken from *The Word Among Us*, January/February 2015, Vol. 34, Number 1: Used with permission.

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS

**Sunday 11** Is 42:1-4, 6-7 / Acts 10:34-38 / Mk 1:7-11  
*The Baptism of the Lord*

**Monday 12** Heb 1:1-6 / Mk 1:14-20  
**Tuesday 13** Heb 2:5-12 / Mk 1:21-28

**Wednesday 14** Heb 2:14-18 / Mk 1:29-39  
**Thursday 15** Heb 3:7-14 / Mk 1:40-45

**Friday 16** Heb 4:1-5, 11 / Mk 2:1-12  
**Saturday 17** Heb 4:12-16 / Mk 2:13-17

*St. Anthony*  
**Sunday 18** 1 Sm 3:3-10, 19 / 1 Cor 6:13-15, 17-20 / Jn 1:35-42

## PARISH CALENDAR

January 11 - 18

**Sunday 11—The Baptism of the Lord. Cardinal Wuerl** is the celebrant and homilist at the 11:30am Mass.

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

Padre Rafael tendrá las confesiones después de la misa de 1 de la tarde.

Always God's Children meets in the West Conference Room at 3:30pm.

**Monday 12—A Eucharistic Holy Hour for Life**, with Confessions in English and Spanish, is held from 6 to 7pm.

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

**Tuesday 13**—El grupo de Oración se reúne a las 7 de la tarde en el salón de conferencias del Oeste.

**Wednesday 14**—Breaking Open the Word meets at 7pm in the West Conference Room.

**Thursday 15**—Legión de María se reúne a las 6:30 de la tarde en el salón de conferencias del Este.

The Knights of Columbus meet at 7:30pm in the West Conference Room.

**Sunday 18**—A second collection for Church Missions within the U.S. is taken at all Masses.

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

Padre Rafael tendrá las confesiones después de la misa de 1 de la tarde.

ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** – "Jesus said to her, 'Give me to drink.'" (John 4:7) is the theme for the 2015 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (**January 18-25**). These days are set aside each year so that Christians the world over may share the prayer of Jesus: "that all may be one... that the world may believe" (John 17:21).

**Choral Vespers, an Ecumenical Prayer Service**, the first event of our 175<sup>th</sup> Parish anniversary Celebration, will be held at 3pm at the Cathedral on the last day of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, **January 25. Rev.**

**Cheryl Sanders**, Senior Pastor of Third Street Church of God, will be the guest preacher. See the full-page announcement in today's bulletin for more details. All are welcome!

## 175<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY



**Memories Wanted – Help to Celebrate the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Matthew’s Parish!** – Your help is needed to mark the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Parish of St. Matthew the Apostle, now the Cathedral Parish, and since 1939, the seat of the Archdiocese. **You are invited now and throughout 2015 to share stories and memories of how your Catholic faith has shaped your life, your faith and your family.** Maybe you have a story of how your Catholic education has made a difference to your future. Maybe there is a moment when you drew closer to your faith because of your involvement with the Cathedral. Maybe you have a story about how you saw the face of God in others through your volunteer efforts, or how Catholic Charities or a Cathedral program or ministry offered you help, hope, or the chance to serve others when you needed it. Share your favorite memories of parish festivals, volunteering, liturgies, social justice events, Christmas Masses and Easter mornings. **The anniversary celebration of our parish is best marked by the inspirations, gratitude, joy, and power of faith.** Your stories and those of your ancestors reflect how St. Matthew’s had shared the joy of the Gospel in downtown Washington, DC for 175 years. Stories will be selected for posting on the parish website weekly. All submissions will be added to the Cathedral Archives.

Please email stories, in **250 words or less**, to [reply@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:reply@stmatthewscathedral.org), or mail them to Msgr. Ronald Jameson at Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle, 1725 Rhode Island Ave., NW Washington, DC 20036-3001. Please include the words “Anniversary Story” in the email heading or on the envelope.

## NEWS AND NOTES

**2015 Cardinal’s Appeal** – Many parishioners received a mailing from Cardinal Wuerl this week asking that they pledge to the 2015 Cardinal’s Appeal. The Appeal funds not only the operations of the archdiocese, but services that are of great help to our cathedral parish. Appeal funds provide financial support for the seminarians from our parish and educational seminars and conferences for our priests. The Appeal offers the opportunity to respond to the needs of others by enabling ministries and services that touch thousands of lives. Please prayerfully consider a generous pledge. Thank you.

**Always God’s Children** – Always God’s Children, the Cathedral parish’s ministry to gay and lesbian Catholics and their families and friends, will meet on Sunday, **January 11** at 3:30pm in the West Conference Room.

**Federal Holiday** – Monday, **January 19** is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, a Federal holiday. The Cathedral will open at 7:30am and close at 1pm. Masses will be at 8am and 12:10pm with no Confessions. The Rectory offices will be closed.

## RESPECT LIFE

**Eucharistic Holy Hour for Life** – All are welcome for a Eucharistic Holy Hour for Life on Monday, **January 12** from 6 to 7pm, with Deacon James Garcia as president. Confessions will be available in English and Spanish during the hour.

**2015 Adult Rally & Mass For Life – Register Now** – The Archdiocese of Washington and Association of Ecclesial Movements and New Communities will sponsor the Adult and Family Rally and Mass for Life on the morning of the National March for Life, **January 22**, here at St. Matthew’s Cathedral. The Rally kicks off at 9am and features Sr. Maris Stella, S.V. (Sister of Life) as the main speaker. Fr. Avelino Gonzalez will celebrate the Mass, which begins at 10am. Registration is required. Register at [adw2015familyrally4life.eventbrite.com](http://adw2015familyrally4life.eventbrite.com), and visit [www.adw.org/Adult-Mass-For-Life](http://www.adw.org/Adult-Mass-For-Life) for more information.

The Rally & Mass marks the 42<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in *Roe v. Wade*. Gather in prayer for an end to abortion and a renewed recognition that “[m]an has been given a sublime dignity, based on the intimate bond which unites him to his Creator: in man there shines forth a reflection of God himself.” (John Paul II, *The Gospel of Life*)

**Join St. Matthew’s at the March for Life** – The Respect Life Ministry invites parishioners and friends to join us at the Rally for Life on the National Mall on Thursday, **January 22**. We will gather in the St. Anthony Chapel after the Rally & Mass for Life at the Cathedral (see above). If you plan to attend, please contact Justin Silvers at [stmatthewsrespectlife@yahoo.com](mailto:stmatthewsrespectlife@yahoo.com) or Fr. Rafael or Norma Canedo at 202-347-3215.

## FAITH FORMATION

**Cathedral Book Club** – All are welcome to join the Book Club on Monday, **January 12** from 6:45 to 8pm in the West Conference Room to discuss *Pedro Paramo*, by Juan Rulfo, translated from the Spanish. This Mexican novel depicts a man's strange quest for his heritage, as his dying mother beseeches him to locate his father, Pedro Paramo.

**God's Abiding Love at St. Matthew's** – Holy Trinity Catholic Church will offer a week-long Ignatian Retreat in Daily Life based at St. Matthew's, **January 25 – 31**. Retreatants spend ½ hour of reflection with a Scripture passage, and a ½ hour meeting with a spiritual director daily (Monday - Friday) at St. Matthew's. The retreat will open with a gathering on Sunday, January 25, 3 - 5pm, and close on Saturday, January 31, 8:30 - 10:30am, at Holy Trinity Church, 3513 N St., NW. Register by January 13. Registration forms can be found at the Cathedral main entrance or at [www.trinity.org/spirituality](http://www.trinity.org/spirituality). Contact: Martina O'Shea at 202-903-2810 or [moshea@trinity.org](mailto:moshea@trinity.org).

**Adult Confirmation Preparation 2015** – Each spring during the Easter season, St. Matthew's offers adult Confirmation preparation for active, baptized Catholics who already have received their First Eucharist. Preparation includes four Thursday evenings (**April 23, 30, May 7 and 14**) and one Saturday Retreat (**May 16**). Registration forms are available through Theresa Prymuszewski, Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation, at 202-587-5139 or [tprymuszewski@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:tprymuszewski@stmatthewscathedral.org).

**Lenten Faith Sharing Facilitators Gathering** – Please consider facilitating or co-facilitating a Faith Sharing Group this Lent (February 18 - March 30). An informational gathering for facilitators including *prospective* facilitators will be given on Sunday, **February 8** from 3 to 4:30pm in the North Conference Room. There will be an introduction to our Lenten book selection: *Church of Mercy* by Pope Francis and the companion *Discussion Guide*. The session will include tips for facilitating groups useful for new or seasoned faith sharing facilitators. Paul Gallagher, an Educational Consultant for Loyola Press, will facilitate our gathering. Check next week's bulletin for more details.

**Lenten Faith Sharing Groups Invitation** – Pope Francis will be in the U.S. in 2015! In honor of the Papal visit please consider signing up to join a Faith Sharing Group this Lent (**February 18 - March 30**) that will focus on our Holy Father's recent book *Church of Mercy*, and the companion *Discussion Guide*.

**Schola Cantorum Openings** – The Schola Cantorum will begin its winter hiatus on **January 12**. Their season will continue with rehearsals beginning Wednesday, February 11. There are a limited number of openings for the Spring in the Schola Cantorum in all voice parts for experienced choral singers. Prospective singers must have significant adult choral experience, good sight-reading skills, and a pleasant, agile voice. The commitment of time and focused energy is significant, particularly at Christmas and during Holy Week. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings, 6:45-8:45pm in weeks when the choir is singing. If you have the appropriate experience and a desire to serve our Cathedral Parish community in this very special way, please contact the Director of Music Ministries, Tom Stehle, at [tstehle@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:tstehle@stmatthewscathedral.org).

## MASS INTENTIONS January 11 - 18

### Sunday, January 11

5:30pm (January 10 vigil) – H.

Ann Reidy

7am – All Parishioners

8:30am – Birdie Doherty  
(living)

10am – Irene Flores Yap

11:30am – Robert Bennett

1pm – Yeny Vicente De León

5:30pm – Kenny Scordo

### Monday, January 12

7am – Alvaro Urribarri

8am – Paul Becker (living)

12:10pm – David Gandolfo

5:30pm – Bette Loeb

### Tuesday, January 13

7am – Msgr. Cartwright

8am – Donald Moen (living)

12:10pm – Jean Cassidy

Albernathy

5:30pm – Josh & Maureen

Ladieu (living)

### Wednesday, January 14

7am – David Zenk

8am – Flor Urribarri

12:10pm – David Gandolfo

5:30pm – Eloise Power

### Thursday, January 15

7am – Deacon William Emley

12:10pm – Andres B. Agcaoili

(living)

5:30pm – Bertha Sarria

### Friday, January 16

7am – Alvin Michael Maher

12:10pm – Joseph Vo Thanh

Khiet

5:30pm – Ronald Steffenser

### Saturday, January 17

8am – Terry Bork (living)

12:10pm – Yolanda Horan

5:30pm – Ma. Salome LaO

Ozaeta

### Sunday, January 18

7am – Thadeus M. Pilewicz

8:30am – All Parishioners

10am – Claudine Bikah

11:30am – Roslyn Gizzi

1pm – Grafeilde Rios (living)

5:30pm – Rodolfo Karaan, Jr.

## LECTURAS DE HOY

**A** veces se dice que Juan Bautista fue el precursor del Mesías; el mensajero de Dios para traer la buena noticia al pueblo escogido acerca del Hijo de Dios que estaba entre ellos.

Juan dijo claramente que él no era sino la voz que gritaba en el desierto para exhortar al pueblo a preparar el camino para el que venía atrás de él, que era más importante que él. El Bautista no se anduvo con rodeos al proclamar que detrás venía uno más grande que él. Quería dejar en claro que la gente no debía fijarse en él y buscar al que era más eminente y digno: “No merezco ni siquiera inclinarme para desatarle la correa de su sandalias”. No cabe duda alguna de que Juan se consideraba servidor. Tanto Jesús como Juan se consideraron servidores de Dios, con la misión de servir al pueblo escogido.

Cuando Jesús les lavó los pies a los discípulos (labor de los esclavos bajos), dijo a los doce que ellos debían ir y hacer lo mismo (Juan 13,12-16). En otras palabras, seguir su ejemplo de servicio. En otra ocasión, les explicó que el lugar que cada uno tendrá en el Reino dependerá de cómo y cuánto cada uno hubiera servido a los demás (Marcos 10,41-45).

San Juan Bautista reconoció y aceptó la grandeza de Jesús, y nosotros haríamos bien en imitarlo en este sentido. No que sea inapropiado pensar que Jesús es nuestro hermano y amigo, pero no debemos dejar de reconocer su dignidad la gloriosa majestad que le corresponde como Dios Hijo, Segunda persona de la Santísima Trinidad. Él nos une a sí mismo, por medio del espíritu Santo que recibimos en el Bautismo, para ser hermanos suyos e hijos del Padre. Él es quien nos brinda la vida y el poder de Dios al bautizarnos con el Espíritu Santo (Marcos 1,8).

*“Jesús, Señor mío, quita de nosotros el afán de ostentación y las actitudes de jactancia por las cuales veneramos nuestra propia imagen. Enséñanos a ser servidores auténticos, que busquemos nada más que complacerte y servirte, a ti y a nuestros hermanos y hermanas, con amor.”*

Escogida con el permiso de *La Palabra Entre Nosotros*, Vol. 34, Número 2: 1 enero/17 febrero 2015.

## NOTICIAS DE LA PARROQUIA

**Clases de inglés para adultos**

**¿Cuándo?** 13 de enero al 9 de abril, del 2015, los martes, miércoles y jueves de 6:30 a 8:30 de la noche

**¿Dónde?** St. Matthew’s Education Center/Centro de Educación de San Mateo, 1726 N St. NW, Washington, DC 20036

**¿Cuánto?** \$40

Los estudiantes tendrán que matricularse en persona en el St. Matthew’s Education Center durante las horas que hayan clases. Durante las matriculas, cada estudiante recibirá un breve examen para determinar cuál es el nivel de clases más apropiado para ellos. Las clases de inglés serán impartidas desde el Nivel 1 (principiante) hasta el Nivel 5 (avanzado). Los estudiantes se podrán inscribir hasta el 5 de febrero. Para más información sobre la inscripción y oportunidades de voluntariado, visite: <http://www.stmatthewscathedral.org/outreach/clases-de-ingles-english-language-classes> o póngase en contacto con Dan Horning al [stmattsesl@gmail.com](mailto:stmattsesl@gmail.com).

**Fiesta Federal** – El lunes, **19 de enero** es Martín Luther King, Jr. fiesta federal. La Catedral abrirá a las 7:30 de la mañana y cerrará a la 1 de la tarde. Se celebrarán las misas de 8 de la mañana y 12:10 del mediodía; no habrá confesiones y las oficinas de la rectoría estarán cerradas.

**Concentración y Misa por la Vida – Inscríbese ahora.** La Arquidiócesis de Washington y Asociación de los Movimientos Eclesiales y Nuevas Comunidades, patrocinará la Concentración y Misa por la Vida en la mañana de la Marcha Nacional por la Vida, el jueves, **22 de enero** aquí en la catedral Jóvenes y familias de la Arquidiócesis de Washington están invitados a inscribirse en la página digital [https:// adw2015familyrally4life.eventbrite.com](https://adw2015familyrally4life.eventbrite.com). La concentración dará inicio a las 9:00 de la mañana. Hermana Maris Stella, S.V. (Hermana de vida) será la presentadora. La misa será celebrada por el Padre Avelino González.

La Misa y la Concentración marcan el 42 aniversario de la Corte Suprema en la decisión *Roe v. Wade*. Planee en unirse en oración para poner fin al aborto y a un conocimiento renovado que “los humanos han sido dados una dignidad sublime, basada en el lazo que los une íntimamente a su Creador: en el hombre existe un reflejo que brilla, del mismo Dios.” (Juan Pablo II, *El Evangelio de la Vida*, n. 34) Visite [www.adw.org/Adult-Mass-For-Life](http://www.adw.org/Adult-Mass-For-Life) para más información.

**Únase con Nosotros para la Marcha por la Vida** – El Ministerio de Respeto a la Vida los invita a nuestros feligreses y amigos a reunirse con nosotros el jueves, **22 de enero** para la Marcha por la Vida en el Mall Nacional. Nos encontraremos en la Capilla de San Antonio de la Catedral después de la Concentración y Misa por la Vida a las 10:00 de la mañana. Póngase en contacto con Justin Silvers si planea ir con nosotros al [stmatthewsrespectlife@yahoo.com](http://stmatthewsrespectlife@yahoo.com). También puede llamar al padre Rafael o Norma Canedo al 202-347-3215.

**Hora Eucarística por la Vida** – Todos son bienvenidos a la Hora Eucarística por la Vida el lunes **12 de enero** de 6 a 7 de la tarde, diacono James Garcia presidirá la hora. Confesiones estará disponible durante la hora Eucarística en inglés y español.

**La Petición del Cardenal 2015** – Esta semana, muchos de nuestros feligreses recibieron un envío por correo de parte del Cardenal Wuerl. Él les pide asumir un compromiso de contribución para la Petición del Cardenal de 2015. La Petición del Cardenal no solo apoya las operaciones de la Arquidiócesis, sino también apoya a los servicios de gran necesidad aquí en nuestra parroquia. Por ejemplo, proporcionan apoyo financiero a los seminaristas de nuestra parroquia y seminarios de formación y conferencias para nuestros sacerdotes. Donar para la Petición del Cardenal, nos ofrece a cada uno de nosotros la oportunidad de responder a las necesidades de nuestro prójimo, promoviendo ministerios y servicios que tocan las vidas de miles de personas. Le regamos que considere con devoción un compromiso de contribución generoso para la Petición del Cardenal 2015. Gracias.

## LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

**Domingo 11** Is 42:1-4, 6-7 / He 10:34-38 / Mc 1:7-11  
*El Bautismo del Señor*

**Lunes 12** Heb 1:1-6 / Mc 1:14-20

**Martes 13** Heb 2:5-12 / Mc 1:21-28

**Miércoles 14** Heb 2:14-18 / Mc 1:29-39  
*San Hilario*

**Jueves 15** Heb 3:7-14 / Mc 1:40-45

**Viernes 16** Heb 4:1-5, 11 / Mc 2:1-12

**Sábado 17** Heb 4:12-16 / Mc 2:13-17  
*San Antonio*

**Domingo 18** 1 Sm 3:3-10, 19 / 1 Cor 6:13-15, 17-20 / Jn 1:35-42

## FAITH IN ACTION

### Adult English Classes

**When?** **January 13 to April 9, 2015** (13 weeks)  
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 6:30 to 8:30pm

**Where?** St. Matthew's Education Center  
1726 N St. NW Washington, DC 20036

**How much?** \$40

Students must register in person at the Education Center during the evenings that class is offered. At registration, each student will be assessed to determine the appropriate class level in which he/she will be placed. Language instruction is provided at Level 1

(Beginner) through Level 5 (Advanced). Student registrations will be accepted until February 5. For more information, visit:

<http://www.stmatthewscathedral.org/outreach/clases-de-ingles-english-language-classes> or contact Dan Horning at [stmattsesl@gmail.com](mailto:stmattsesl@gmail.com).

### Adult Spanish Classes

**When?** **January 13 to April 9, 2015** (13 weeks)  
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 6:30 to 8:30pm

**Where?** St. Matthew's Education Center

**How much?** \$80

Language instruction is offered at two levels. No prior knowledge of Spanish is necessary for Level 1. Enrollment in Level 2 is accepted only with prior consent of the Level 2 instructors. Priority registration for both levels will take place through **January 21** and is reserved for St. Matthew's parishioners and those currently involved in a Cathedral ministry. Students may register in person during class nights at St. Matthew's Education Center until the enrollment cap is reached. Enrollment for both levels is limited and early registration is recommended. For more information, visit: St. Matthew's website at

<http://www.stmatthewscathedral.org/outreach/spanish-language-classes-0> or contact Dan Horning at [stmattsssl@gmail.com](mailto:stmattsssl@gmail.com).

**Breakfast Ministry** – Every Monday morning, St. Matthew's welcomes 80 poor and homeless men and women for breakfast, toiletries and a lunch-bag, and a reflection on the Gospel. We need volunteers to donate homemade meals or salads and fresh vegetables to serve about 10 people. You may sign up to provide food at least once a month and may deliver food on Sundays. For more information, contact Norma Canedo at 202-347-3215 x552 or [ncanedo@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:ncanedo@stmatthewscathedral.org).

## YOUNG ADULTS

**C+YA at the Northwest Center** – Tuesday, January 13 – 6 to 8pm – **Northwest Center** (2702 Ontario Road NW / Columbia Heights) – The Northwest Center provides support and comprehensive care that enables women to deliver and care for healthy babies. We get together each month to sort donations or do odd jobs around the Center. Contact Natalie Committee at [natalie.committe@gmail.com](mailto:natalie.committe@gmail.com) for more information and to sign up.

**C+YA for Supper – Save the Date!** – Thursday, January 22 – 7pm – **Details to come!** – Email [stmattsyam@gmail.com](mailto:stmattsyam@gmail.com) with questions.

# New Year's Day 2015

(Msgr. Jameson's homily, prepared but not delivered)

New Year's Day of the year 2015! A day of new beginnings, a day of new hope. For no matter how jaded we may have become about our lives or our world, there is, happily, a day like today to renew us in hope. The day we stopped celebrating New Year's Day or stopped making New Year's resolutions would be a sad day, I think. It would say something about the dying of hope.

So, go ahead with those resolutions – even if you've tried them before and abandoned them early. Go on that long-dreaded diet, get back to the gym; cut back on TV and do more reading, keep a tighter rein on your credit cards. Or make up your mind to stay in better touch with family members and friends. Or dig even deeper and promise to let go this year of a long-festering grudge – replacing the cold of resentment with the warmth of forgiveness.

And I have the perfect resolution for all of you who are St. Matthew's Cathedral parishioners. Since we have just begun our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year, why not resolve to make this the year for cultivating and deepening your relationship with God? We have been working on a menu of possibilities for prayer and spiritual renewal, so this should make your resolution fairly easy to realize.

And isn't it wonderful that we get to begin this year in the company of Mary, the Mother of God and our mother? What better company could we possibly have? In today's gospel, we saw Mary in a wonderfully reflective moment. Luke tells us that she "treasured" all the things that had happened: the birth of her son, the song of the angels, the visit of the shepherds. She treasured them and she "reflected on them in her heart." For this reason, I would suggest that Mary is the one more than any other who should be our companion during this Anniversary Year. She can show us how to treasure all that God has done – and continues to do – in our lives and our parish. She can show us how to reach quietly into our hearts and there to meet the God who is always with us – even when we're not particularly with him.

Dear friends, the Church calls Mary the Mother of God, but she is also Mother of the Church, Mother of saints, Mother of sinners, Mother of us all. The Church wants us to realize that our own vocation – the call each of us received on the day of our baptism – is to do what Mary did: to bring Jesus Christ into our world. To give birth to Jesus in our time and in all places where we live our lives. Now there's an agenda for our Anniversary Year, wouldn't you agree? Mary's motherhood of Jesus was, of course, unique but her "yes" to God is something we can all do. Along with Mary, we can make Christ come to life in ways he never otherwise could or would – were it not for us.

Can we agree on a parish New Year's resolution, then? A resolution for our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year? I propose we resolve to do what Mary did: to bring Jesus Christ to birth in our lives – his values, his Gospel, his way of looking at life and at people, his mercy, his forgiveness, his love. Lots of New Year's resolutions are good and worthwhile. This is one that could change not only the parish but even our world!

*That All May Be One in Christ*

# Choral Vespers

An Ecumenical Prayer Service

Celebrating 175 years in the Nation's Capital



Sunday January 25, 2015

3:00pm

Guest Preacher, Rev. Cheryl Sanders

Senior Pastor, Third Street Church of God

*Assisting Clergy include* Rev. Luis Leon, St John's Church, Lafayette Square

Rev. Karen Brau, Luther Place Memorial Church

Rev. William H. Lamar, IV, Metropolitan A.M.E. Church

Invited Neighborhood Christian Faith Communities include:

St. John's Church, Lafayette Square

Church of the Pilgrims, P St.

Foundry United Methodist Church

Luther Place Memorial Church

Metropolitan A.M.E. Church

First Baptist Church, 16th St.

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

St. Margaret's Episcopal Church

Grace Reformed Church, 15th St.

New York Avenue Presbyterian Church

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 15th St.

National City Christian Church

Christ Reformed Church, 15th St.

Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle  
1725 Rhode Island Ave NW, Washington DC 20036

[www.stmatthewscathedral.org](http://www.stmatthewscathedral.org)

[www.facebook.com/st.matthews.cathedral](https://www.facebook.com/st.matthews.cathedral)



## Looking for a convenient way to support our parish offertory?

*Faith Direct* is the innovative solution that allows you to support our parish using electronic funds transfer from either a credit card or bank account. It is a hassle-free, simple solution for today's busy families.

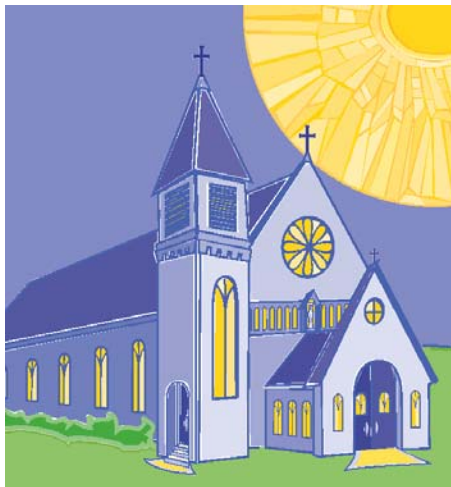
Sign up using the enrollment form on the other side or go online to [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) and use our parish code **DC284** to enroll today!

**ENROLL TODAY!**

### *How does Faith Direct work?*

*Faith Direct* is a secure system that works directly with your bank or credit card—much the same as other direct payments you may have set up for utility bills or mortgage payments.

### *When do transactions take place?*



Transactions take place once per month on the 4<sup>th</sup> or the next business day. The total amount of your gifts for that current month (both offertory & second/special collections) will be debited in one monthly total. The Cathedral will receive the funds 4 business days later.

### *Can I stop, increase, or decrease my payment at any time?*

Yes, by calling *Faith Direct* at 1-866-507-8757 (toll free) by emailing [info@faithdirect.net](mailto:info@faithdirect.net), or by logging in to your account through [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net).

### *How does the Cathedral benefit from my participation with Faith Direct?*

The Cathedral will see a substantial increase in net revenue, a decrease in administrative costs, and a clearer picture of cash flow for their needs.

**If you have any questions about the *Faith Direct* program, please call 1-866-507-8757 {toll free} or send an email to [info@faithdirect.net](mailto:info@faithdirect.net), or contact Pam Erwin at the Rectory at 202-347-3215 x537 or [perwin@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:perwin@stmatthewscathedral.org).**



# E-GIVING ENROLLMENT FORM



Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle  
1725 Rhode Island Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20036

To enroll online, use code  
below or scan here: →

DC284



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Faith Direct • Attention: Enrollment • P.O. Box 7101 • Merrifield, VA 22116-7101 • 1-866-507-8757 {toll free} • www.faithdirect.net

**Process my gifts on the:**  4th *or*  15th of the month *(please check only one box)*

*"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace." (Peter 4:10)*

Weekly Offertory Gift: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*(Note: The total amount will be determined by the number of  
Sundays in the month. Some months have 5 Sundays.)*

You may also choose to give to the following second and special collections as part of the regular monthly transaction.

**Organ Completion Fund:**  Weekly Gift: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  Monthly Gift: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  One-Time: Gift \$ \_\_\_\_\_

COLLECTION	AMOUNT	MONTH	COLLECTION	AMOUNT	MONTH
<input type="checkbox"/> Cathedral Maintenance	\$ _____	Monthly	<input type="checkbox"/> Holy Father	\$ _____	June
<input type="checkbox"/> Music Ministry	\$ _____	Monthly	<input type="checkbox"/> Catholic Communications & Human Development	\$ _____	August
<input type="checkbox"/> Poor Box/Outreach	\$ _____	Monthly	<input type="checkbox"/> Assumption	\$ _____	August
<input type="checkbox"/> Solemnity of Mary	\$ _____	January	<input type="checkbox"/> Catholic University	\$ _____	September
<input type="checkbox"/> Church Missions within the US	\$ _____	January	<input type="checkbox"/> Propagation of the Faith/ World Missions	\$ _____	October
<input type="checkbox"/> Ash Wednesday	\$ _____	March	<input type="checkbox"/> All Saints Day	\$ _____	November
<input type="checkbox"/> Churches in the Developing World	\$ _____	March	<input type="checkbox"/> All Souls Day *	\$ _____	November
<input type="checkbox"/> Holy Thursday	\$ _____	March/April	<input type="checkbox"/> Archdiocesan Priests' Retirement	\$ _____	November
<input type="checkbox"/> Holy Land	\$ _____	March/April	<input type="checkbox"/> Retirement Fund for Religious	\$ _____	December
<input type="checkbox"/> Easter Flowers	\$ _____	March/April	<input type="checkbox"/> Immaculate Conception	\$ _____	December
<input type="checkbox"/> Easter Sunday (In addition to regular Sunday gift)	\$ _____	March/April	<input type="checkbox"/> Christmas Flowers	\$ _____	December
<input type="checkbox"/> Catholic Relief Services	\$ _____	May	<input type="checkbox"/> Christmas	\$ _____	December

\* Please call the church at 202-347-3215 with the names of your intentions for this collection.

I would like to enroll in the Faith Direct program for the benefit of the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle. I understand that my **total** monthly contribution amount will be transferred directly from my checking account or credit card as stated above, a record of my gifts will appear on my bank or credit card statement, and my transfers will begin on the 4th or next business day of the month following my enrollment. I understand that I can increase, decrease, or suspend my giving by contacting Faith Direct toll free at 1-866-507-8757.

*{All gifts provided to your Church originating as Automated Clearing House transactions comply with US law.}*

Signature: **X** \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): *(please print)* \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Church Envelope #: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as I/we would like it to appear on Offertory Cards: \_\_\_\_\_

I do not wish to receive Offertory Cards to place in the collection basket as a sign of my electronic giving.

*If you choose to enroll by mail, you can contact Faith Direct at 1-866-507-8757 {toll-free} to set up online access to your account.*

**For Bank Account Debit:** Please return this completed form and a voided check to Faith Direct Enrollment.

**For Credit/Debit Card:** Please complete the following...  VISA  MasterCard  American Express  Discover

Credit/Debit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions about the Faith Direct program, please contact us at 1-866-507-8757 {toll free} or info@faithdirect.net.