

TODAY'S READINGS

He emptied himself. (*Philippians 2:7*)
On this special grace-filled day, let's spend some time dwelling on this one simple verse from today's second reading. What did St. Paul mean when he said that Jesus "emptied himself"?

First, Paul tells us that Jesus has always been God. He wasn't created in the image and likeness of God, as we have been. No, he enjoyed "equality with God" (*Philippians 2:6*). And yet he chose to become a man. He emptied himself of all the "benefits" he had in heaven. By taking on a human body, he submitted to physical limitations. He knew hunger, tiredness, and pain. He accepted the limitation of being in one place at a time. He who once enjoyed the praise of the angels in heaven now relied on prayer himself to discern his Father's will.

Jesus went even further than that. He chose not to come as a powerful king with many servants, a palatial home, and a mighty army. Instead, he was born into a poor, simple family. He became a tradesman in a humble little village in occupied territory. He owned very little. Even his tomb was borrowed!

Jesus gave up everything—and he did it for us. He came from heaven to earth so that we could go from earth to heaven. He was hated so that we could know love. He was condemned so that we could be pardoned. He died so that we could have eternal life. In every way, he emptied himself so that we could be filled.

Now Jesus is asking us to become like him. He is asking us to choose to serve rather than to be served. He is asking us to humble ourselves and care for the Church, the poor, and the needy. May we never forget what Jesus did for us on the cross. May the love and humility of his own self-emptying move us to ask how we can give more of ourselves to him and his people.

"Jesus, thank you for your sacrifice of love! Teach me to love other people as deeply as you have loved me."

Taken from *The Word Among Us*, February 2016, Vol. 35, Number 3: Used with permission.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday 20 Lk 19:28-40 / Is 50:4-7 / Phil 2:6-11 / Lk 22:14–23:56

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Monday 21 Is 42:1-7 / Jn 12:1-11

Monday of Holy Week

Tuesday 22 Is 49:1-6 / Jn 13:21-33,36-38

Tuesday of Holy Week

Wednesday 23 Is 50:4-9 / Mt 26:14-25

Wednesday of Holy Week

Thursday 24 Ex 12:1-8,11-14 / 1 Cor 11:23-26 / Jn 3:1-15

Holy Thursday

Friday 25 Is 52:13—53:12 / Heb 4:14-16;5:7-9 / Jn 18:1—19:42

Good Friday of the Lord's Passion

Saturday 26 Gn 1:1—2:2 / Gn 22:1-18 / Ex 14:15—15:1 / Is 54:5-14 /

Holy Saturday Is 55:1-11 / Bar 3:9 -15,32—4:4 / Ez 36:16-28 /

Rom 6:3-11 / Mk 16:1-7

Sunday 27 Act 10:34,37-43 / Col 3:1-4 / Jn 20:1-9

Easter Sunday, The Resurrection of the Lord

WELCOME

Visitors 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!

NEWS AND NOTES

Decorators Needed! – On Holy Saturday, **March 26** we will decorate the Cathedral for Easter. We need volunteers from 9:30am until 11am to prepare flowers and other decorations. No need to sign up in advance—just come!

Easter Vigil Reception Sign Up – We need help setting up, serving and cleaning up for the Holy Saturday Vigil reception on **March 26**. If you can help, please contact Theresa Prymuszewski at tprymuszewski@stmatthewscathedral.org.

Holiday Schedule – On Easter Monday, **March 28** the Rectory offices will be closed. The Cathedral will open at 7:30am and close at 1pm. Masses will be celebrated at 8am and 12:10pm, and there will be no Confessions.



Women's Retreat at Washington Retreat House

– Women parishioners and friends are invited on the weekend of **April 22-24** to St. Matthew's annual Women's Retreat at the Washington Retreat House (4000 Harewood Road, NE). An [information flyer and registration form](#) is available at the rectory and on the parish website.

HOLY WEEK

We invite you to join us at our Holy Week liturgies and services. Find the schedule in today's bulletin, or in the brochures in the pew racks, in baskets at the Cathedral doors or at www.stmatthewscathedral.org. Penn Parking Garage next to the Cathedral offers extended hours for the Chrism Mass, Tenebræ and the Easter Vigil.



Chrism Mass – The Chrism Mass for the Archdiocese of Washing-

ton will be celebrated at the Cathedral on Monday, **March 21** at 7pm. **Donald Cardinal Wuerl** will celebrate this special Mass during which priests of the Archdiocese renew their ordination promises and the sacramental oils for the year are blessed. The Cathedral will close after the 12:10pm Mass and reopen at 6pm. Come and pray for our priests!

Holy Week Confessions – The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at our [Lenten Communal Penance Service, Come Home for Easter](#) (see the insert in today's bulletin) on Tuesday of Holy Week, **March 22** and as follows:
11am - Noon—Monday and Wednesday of Holy Week, **March 21 and 23**, Holy Thursday, **March 24**, Good Friday, **March 25**, Holy Saturday, **March 26** (no Confessions at regular Saturday time of 4-5pm).
6:15 - 7:15pm—Wednesday of Holy Week, **March 23** (Confessions before the 7:30pm Tenebræ service).

Way of the Cross along the National Mall – On Good Friday, **March 25**, Communion and Liberation will sponsor the Way of the Cross along the National Mall. Participants will congregate for the

first station at St. Peter's Church on Capitol Hill at 9:30am, where they will be joined by **Cardinal Wuerl**. After a station near the Capitol, the procession will follow the cross to stations along the National Mall, ending at the Washington Monument at 12:30pm. At each station, there will be readings from the Passion, a meditation, a reflection and hymns. All are invited. For more information, email wayofthecrossdc@gmail.com.



Good Friday Collection – Please help support our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land by giving to the special Good Friday Collection. This Pontifical Collection allows the Franciscans and others to continue caring for Christianity's holiest sites and for God's people in the Holy Land. Please be generous!

Easter Flower Offering – Each year we try to decorate the Cathedral for Easter in a way that truly reflects the noble simplicity of that holy season. In order to do so again this year, we ask for your support. Please use the envelopes marked "Flower Offering" located in the pews. Thank you for your generosity.

FAITH IN ACTION



Spring Supper for the Homeless - Thank you! – Thank you

to all who participated in the Spring Supper for our homeless friends sponsored by the Social Justice Committee. Your donations of delicious food, money and time in hosting the event allowed us to serve many grateful men and

women. They felt very welcomed, and some said it was the best meal they ever had! Please join us when we host our next meal.

Easter Drive – Thank you! – We are thankful to all who donated gift cards and other monetary donations to the Easter Drive. \$50 Safeway gift cards were distributed to each of the 53 families of our Adopt-a-Family program, to be used for a delicious Easter feast. Thank you for your generosity! To learn more about the Adopt-a-Family program, email Norma Canedo at ncanedo@stmatthewscathedral.org.

CRS Rice Bowl Reflection – Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl invites us to reflect on the Catholic social teaching principle of *Solidarity*. Let us remember that whatever our backgrounds, we are all one human family. Let us pray this week that we may always see our neighbors as our brothers and sisters and that together we seek justice and peace for all. Pick up a "rice bowl," a cardboard piggy bank, at the Cathedral main entrance. Donations will be collected on **April 2 and 3**. For more information, see www.crsricebowl.org/. For questions, contact Fr. Rafael or Norma Canedo at socialjustice@stmatthewscathedral.org.



St. Matthew's Hispanic Community prepared and served the meal at our March 12 Simple Lenten Meal. Project Rachel was the beneficiary of the almsgiving that evening. Thanks to all who participated!

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY



Palm Sunday –“You know, there’s something about mercy that is very human. This ability to feel compassion and to act on it makes us who we are. And when we look toward the events of Holy Week, there’s no way we can stand apart from what is happening. It’s just not in us. The Passion of Jesus and the very injustice of what is happening

grabs us somewhere in the gut. Non-Catholics are sometimes puzzled, when they see our churches fill up on Good Friday. But people not familiar with the way we do things miss the point that Jesus’s story looks like our story as well. There’s a point where our stories come together.” *Listen to the rest of this reflection from Fr. Frank Wright at mercy.adw.org.*



at Cathedral entrances.

Did you know? – St. Matthew’s Cathedral is one of the designated pilgrimage sites at which visitors may receive the plenary (total) indulgence for this Holy Year of Mercy! For guidance on how to do this, pick up the [Pilgrimage to the Holy Door brochure](#)

FAITH FORMATION

Adult Confirmation Preparation – Each spring during the Easter Season, St. Matthew’s offers adult Confirmation preparation for active, baptized Catholics who have already received their First Eucharist. Preparation includes four Thursday evenings (April 14, 21, 28 & May 5) and one Saturday (May 7). The celebration of adult Confirmation in 2016 will be at a special Mass on Pentecost Sunday, **May 15**. Registration forms are available on the parish website. Register by **April 11**.

Children’s Faith Formation – Children’s Faith Formation classes will not meet on Easter Sunday, **March 27**. Classes will resume on Sunday, **April 3**.

R.C.I.A. – Our RCIA group will participate in the Cathedral’s Holy Week Services this week. Wednesday sessions will reconvene on **March 30**.

Spiritual Direction – St. Matthew’s provides and refers interested persons to qualified spiritual directors. Contact Theresa Prymuszewski, Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation, at 202-587-5139 or tprymuszewski@stmatthewscathedral.org.

MARRIAGE

Couples who are interested in celebrating the Sacrament of Marriage at the Cathedral are encouraged to visit the parish website to review our guidelines for weddings. The next step is to call the Rectory at 202-347-3215 and ask for the priest of your choice or the priest on duty, who can speak to you about marriage preparation and the possibility of scheduling your wedding at the Cathedral. Couples are expected to contact us **at least nine (9) months in advance** of the date on which they hope to celebrate their wedding.

Blessing of Engaged Couples – On Sunday, **April 24**, couples who are to be married at the Cathedral or are receiving marriage preparation at St. Matthew’s are invited to receive a blessing at the 11:30am Mass. To participate, email reply@stmatthewscathedral.org.

Annual Jubilarian Mass – This year’s Jubilarian Celebration of marriage honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 51+ years will be held Sunday, **June 19** at 2pm at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Cardinal Wuerl will preside at the Mass. Call 202-587-5143 to by **April 1** to register from St. Matthew’s.

BAPTISM

Parents who wish to have their child baptized at the Cathedral should contact the Baptismal Coordinator at baptism@stmatthewscathedral.org or 202-347-3215 x555. Parents are encouraged to contact us **at least six (6) months in advance** of a desired baptismal date, and may ask for the priest of their choice to perform the Baptism. Early contact allows parents to be scheduled for the necessary sacramental formation session and godparents to obtain letters from their pastor.

If you are a registered parishioner at St. Matthew’s and need a letter of good standing in order to be a godparent for a baptism to be celebrated at another parish, please call the Cathedral rectory at 202-347-3215 to ask about obtaining a letter.

Marriage Encounter – Are we also like Peter, denying Christ over and over? Christ calls us to be all we can be in our Marriage Sacrament. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is **April 22-24**, in Gaithersburg, MD. For more information and to apply online visit welovematrimony.org, email at applications@welovematrimony.org, or call 301-541-7007.

LECTURAS DE HOY

Cuando leemos los relatos de la Pasión de Cristo, siempre surge la ilusión de que ojalá todo hubiera sido distinto. ¡Ojalá no lo hubieran traicionado! ¡Cuánto odio y crueldad demuestra el ser humano en ciertas ocasiones!

Pero todo esto era necesario porque era el plan de Dios para la salvación del género humano. Ojalá hubiera habido otra solución, pero obviamente no la hubo. ¡Era necesario el sacrificio perfecto de Cristo para obtener la salvación! ¡Sin él, estaríamos eternamente condenados! Leyendo la pasión de Cristo empezamos a reconocer que la situación de la humanidad era, y sigue siendo, inevitablemente fatal.

Tan completa era la obediente sumisión de Jesús a su Padre que, aunque fue falsamente acusado, torturado y crucificado, llegó incluso a perdonar a sus perseguidores y pidió a las mujeres que no lloraran por él. Tal vez nos disguste pensar en la sangre que Jesús sudaba en el huerto de Getsemaní y en la angustia que le causaba la muerte que pronto sufriría. Sin embargo, esta idea produce en nosotros, al mismo tiempo, un extraordinario sentido de gratitud, porque nos recuerda todo lo que nuestro Señor sufrió para salvarnos. A medida que el Espíritu Santo nos dé ojos de fe para ver la pasión de Cristo, el disgusto y el rechazo se enfocarán en nuestro propio pecado, porque veremos claramente que fue precisamente por nuestras maldades e injusticias que Cristo sufrió tanto.

Dedique tiempo hoy a leer la pasión de Cristo y pídale al Señor que lo llene de su amor. Sitúese en el aposento alto, en Getsemaní o en el monte de la crucifixión. Por fe, contemple a Aquel que dio su vida para que usted alcanzara la libertad. Cuando nos colocamos junto a Jesús, en medio de todos estos sucesos, podemos experimentar nuestra propia redención de un modo directo, profundo y transformador.

"Jesús, Salvador mío, concédeme la gracia de contemplar el misterio de tu cruz. Ayúdame, Señor, a vaciarme de mí mismo, confiando en que un día seré elevado contigo y tus santos para participar de tu gloria infinita."

"Escogida con el permiso de la Palabra Entre Nosotros. Vol 35, Numero 3; febrero - marzo 2016.

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Domingo 20 Lc 19:28-40 / Is 50:4-7 / Fil 2:6-11 / Lc 22:14-23:56

Domingo de Ramos la Pasión del Señor

Lunes 21 Is 42:1-7 / Jn 12:1-11

Lunes Santo

Martes 22 Is 49:1-6 / Jn 13:21-33,36-38

Martes Santo

Miércoles 23 Is 50:4-9 / Mt 26:14-25

Miércoles Santo

Jueves 24 Éx 12:1-8,11-14 / 1 Cor 11:23-26 / Jn 13:1-15

Jueves Santo

Viernes 25 Is 52:13—53:12 / Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9 / Jn 18:1—19:42

Viernes Santo

Sábado 26 Gn 1:1—2:2 / Gn 22:1-18 / Ex 14:15—15:1 / Is 54:5-14 /

Sábado Santo Is 55:1-11 / Bar 3:9-15,32—4:4 / Ez 36:16-28 /

Rom 6:3-11 / Mc16:1-7

Domingo 27 He 10:34,37-43 / Col 3:1-4 / Jn 20:1-9

Domingo de Pascua de la Resurrección del Señor

INTENCIONES DE MISAS

MASS INTENTIONS

March 20 -27

Sunday, March 20

5:30pm Vigil (March 19) - Thomas Marum

7am - Nery Barrientos

8:30am - Beulah Charles

10am - John F. Whelan

11:30am - Candido Menjivar

1pm - Todos los Feligreses

5:30pm - Susan Harden

Monday, March 21

7am - Special Intention JA & V (living)

8am - Margaret Holback

12:10pm - Thomas Duane Payne

Tuesday, March 22

7am - Celmira Borjas

8am - Adeline J. Nolan

5:30pm - Feliciano Yu

Wednesday, March 23

7am - David Murray (health & well-being) (living)

8am - Conrad Vincent Zarek

12:10pm - Teopista Sabelino

5:30pm - Elisabeth Schilling (living)

Thursday, March 24

12:10pm - Vincenta Jayme Matzen

5:30pm - Joao Freitas (living)

Sunday, March 27

7am - The Dyer Family (living)

8:30am - Dee Raberge

10am - Joseph & Carolyn Prucnal

11:30am - All parishioners

1pm - Fabio Ivan Castellón

5:30pm - Anne Marie Clifford

You may arrange a Mass intention by speaking to our receptionist in the Rectory. There is no fee but an offering is customary. Intentions are reserved in advance, so particular dates may be unavailable.

Se les recuerda a todas las personas que deseen ofrecer misas por sus difuntos, que tienen que reservarlas por lo menos, con tres meses de antelación debido a que solo tenemos una misa en español.

NOTICIAS DE LA PARROQUIA



Domingo de Ramos – “Hay algo sobre la misericordia que es muy humano. La habilidad de sentir compasión y ponerla en acción nos convierte en la persona que somos. Y

cuando miramos hacia los eventos de la Semana Santa, no hay ninguna manera de separarnos de lo que está sucediendo. No solo es en nosotros. La Pasión de Cristo y la injusticia que sucede nos toca el alma. Muchas personas que no son católicos, quedan sorprendidos al ver las iglesias llenas el Viernes Santo. Pero, muchas personas que no saben cómo hacemos las cosas pierden el mensaje de que la historia de Jesús es como la de nosotros. Hay un punto cuando nuestras historias se unen.” *Escucha el resto de esta reflexión de Padre Frank Wright en misericordia.adw.org.*

Colecta para Familias necesitadas – ¡Gracias! – Estamos agradecidos a todos los que donaron tarjetas de regalo y otras donaciones monetarias para las familias necesitadas durante esta Pascua. Se distribuyeron tarjetas de regalo de Safeway de \$50 a cada una de las 53 familias de nuestro programa de Adopte-una-Familia, para que sean utilizadas para una deliciosa cena de Pascua. ¡Gracias por su generosidad! Si quiere aprender más sobre el programa de Adopte-una-Familia, mande un email a Norma Canedo a ncanedo@stmatthewscathedral.org.

El Vía Crucis en el Monumento National – El Viernes Santo, **25 de marzo**, el movimiento de Comunión y Liberación organiza el Vía Crucis en el "Monumento National" en el centro de Washington. Nos reuniremos en la parroquia de San Pedro en Capitol Hill a las 9:30 de la

mañana para empezar la procesión a la cual se unirá el Cardenal Wuerl. El recorrido será por el frente del Capitolio y otras paradas hasta llegar al Monumento de Washington a las 12:30 de la tarde. En cada parada se conmemora solemnemente los eventos de Viernes Santo con textos, himnos, y música. Todos están invitados a participar. Para más información contactar a: wayofthecrossdc@gmail.com.

Próximamente – El lunes de Pascua **28 de marzo** las oficinas de la rectoría estarán cerradas. 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.

Ofrenda de Flores de semana Santa – Cada año hacemos lo posible para decorar la Catedral en una forma que refleje la simplicidad de Semana Santa. Para hacerlo de nuevo este año, se les pide que nos apoyen con su generosidad. Por favor use los sobres marcados "Flower Offering" localizados en los bancos. Queremos que la Catedral esté bien adornada, cualquier asistencia que den para la decoración es apreciada.

Reflexión de CRS Plato de Arroz – El programa de Plato de Arroz de *Catholic Relief Services* nos invita a reflexionar sobre la enseñanza católica-social de la *Solidaridad*. Recordemos que aunque venimos de diferentes culturas todos somos una sola familia humana. Recemos esta semana para que siempre veamos al prójimo como nuestros hermanos y que juntos debemos buscar la paz y justicia para todos. Recoja un "Plato de Arroz", una alcancía de cartón, en la entrada de

la Catedral. Las donaciones se recogerán el **2 & 3 de abril**. Más información: www.crsricebowl.org/. Si tiene alguna pregunta, póngase en contacto con el padre Rafael o Norma Canedo al socialjustice@stmatthewscathedral.org.



La comunidad hispana de San Mateo, preparó y sirvió la comida el 12 de marzo para las cenas simples de Cuaresma. El programa Rachel, fue el beneficiario de los fondos que se recogieron esa tarde. ¡Gracias a todos los que participaron!

Clases de Confirmación para Adultos – Se ofrecerán clases de preparación para el sacramento de la Confirmación para adultos los domingos **10, 17, 24 de abril y 1 de mayo** de 11 de la mañana a 12:30 del mediodía. Las personas interesadas deben traer el certificado de bautizo vigente y es requerido asistir a la conferencia del **Opispo Mario Dorsonville** el martes **5 de abril**. Para más información e inscripción dejar un mensaje a Fátima al 202-347-3215 ext 543.

Misa de Jubileo Matrimonial 2016 – El Cardenal Wuerl estará presidiendo la misa anual de Jubileo Matrimonial para conmemorar a las parejas que están celebrando 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 o más años de matrimonio el domingo **19 de junio** del 2016 en la Basílica de la Inmaculada Concepción a las 2:00 de la tarde. Para registrarse llame a la rectoría al 202-347-3215, **a más tardar el viernes 1 de abril**.

Passion (Palm) Sunday and the Paschal Triduum

Introduction. In this holiest of weeks - the summit of the liturgical year [introduced by Passion Sunday], the liturgical celebrations draw us more deeply into the mystery of salvation -- the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus. In particular, the visible ritual actions (e.g. washing of the feet) are not attempts to mimic the actions of Jesus. Rather we recall and celebrate the fundamental mysteries of our Christian faith as expressed in its central stories (the passion readings), its symbols (the bread, wine, fire, water and oil) and its ritual actions (feet washing, prostrating, venerating, immersing and anointing). We do this in one unending, continuous set of liturgies (the Triduum) that begin on Thursday evening and end gloriously with the Saturday evening and Sunday celebrations. **These days are an eschatological celebration -- looking to the future that fulfills the past, the *Omega* of the *Alpha*.**

Passion (Palm) Sunday. This celebration of the Lord's entry into Jerusalem and the passion reading was first recorded in the 6th century; palms became a part of the celebration during the 7th and 8th centuries. A procession with palms became a part of the liturgy in the 10th century. Even today, the ritual of palms and procession varies universally. At St. Matthew's, palms will be blessed and distributed at each liturgy. The particular commemoration of the Lord's entry into Jerusalem is celebrated at the beginning of the 10am liturgy as the assembly gathers at 9:45am for the blessing of palms, gospel proclamation and procession into the cathedral. All Masses will include the special reading of the Passion according to St. Mark.

Holy Thursday – Liturgy of the Lord's Supper. 4th century Jerusalem gives us the first record that this day ends season of Lent and that the evening Mass commemorates the Eucharistic institution. 7th century Rome has the first church celebration of the ritual feet washing during this evening liturgy. This celebration became the entry point into the Triduum of the paschal mystery -- "crucified, buried and risen Lord" (St. Augustine). At St. Matthew's, the tradition of the feet washing is commemorated during the evening liturgy by inviting representatives of the community (women and men) to come forward to the sanctuary and participate in the washing of the feet. The celebration is concluded by the processional transfer of the Blessed Sacrament to its place of reservation after which those present are encouraged to spend some time reflecting on Christ's enduring in our lives.

Good Friday – Liturgy of the Lord's Passion. 4th century Jerusalem provides the first recorded celebration in which people traced Christ's movement to Golgotha, stopping at various locations to sing psalms and pray. Upon reaching Golgotha, the wood of the cross was presented to people for veneration. 7th century Rome has the first record of when St. John's passion was read during this celebration. Communion for the assembly has not always been a part of this celebration, but was reintroduced in the 1955 liturgical reforms of the Triduum by Pope Pius XII. This liturgy typically begins in silence with the ministers prostrating on the floor of the sanctuary and includes the proclamation of the passion according to St. John, the solemn intercessions, the special veneration of the

cross and Communion for the assembly. At the veneration, the assembly is invited forward to reverence the cross (either a solemn bow, kiss or genuflection); the ritual does suggest that people come forward with shoes removed as an additional sign of reverence. Participants are also invited to make a special offering for the Holy Land sites. These special services of prayer are listed for the benefit of parishioners:

Holy (Great) Saturday - Liturgy of the Easter Vigil. And so we come to "the mother of all holy vigils" (St. Augustine). The early 3rd century finds the first records of this most holy of celebrations during which all baptisms were performed [a practice that died out by the 11th century]. Between the 3rd and 12th centuries, the lighting of the Easter candle, the singing of the *Exsultet*, the blessing of new fire and procession were added to this great liturgy at different points in time. When and how this liturgy was celebrated varied over these several centuries until Pius XII, and later Vatican Council II, restored the liturgy to its current form. This night marks with great solemnity the transition from death to life of Christ -- the pivot of the mystery of salvation. We begin in darkness outside the cathedral by lighting the Easter fire and the great Paschal Candle. With tapers lit from the Paschal Candle, the assembly processes into the darkened church acclaiming "Christ our light." When the procession ends, the glorious Easter proclamation (the *Exsultet*) is sung. Following this, selected Old Testament texts are read telling the story of creation, Abraham's sacrifice, the Exodus and the coming of the Messiah. The singing of the Easter Gloria introduces the reading of the New Testament letter, followed by the magnificent Easter Gospel Alleluia that accompanies the procession of the Gospel Book for the solemn proclamation of the Easter Gospel. After the homily, the new Easter water is blessed, baptismal promises are renewed, new members are baptized or received into the church and confirmed. We continue with the Eucharistic celebration that gives praise and thanksgiving for:

!! CHRIST IS RISEN !!

Deacon Bartholomew Merella



HOLY WEEK & EASTER

March 20

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

Schedule of Masses with the distribution of palms:

- 5:30PM** (Saturday, March 19) REV. RAFAEL BARBIERI
7AM REV. ISMAEL N. AYALA
8:30AM REV. JOHN J. HURLEY (cantor)
9:45AM Blessing of Palms, DONALD CARDINAL WUERL
10AM DONALD CARDINAL WUERL (choir)
† **11:30AM** REV. MSGR. W. RONALD JAMESON (choir)
1PM MOST REV. MARIO E. DORSONVILLE (en Español)
5:30PM VERY REV. JAMES J. GREENFIELD, O.S.F.S.
(contemporary choir)

March 21

MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK

- 7AM** Mass
8AM Mass
11AM to NOON Confessions
12:10PM Mass
1PM to 6PM *The Cathedral is closed & reopens at 6PM.*
† **7PM** CHRISM MASS & BLESSING OF OILS, DONALD CARDINAL WUERL, celebrant, concelebrated by the priests of the Archdiocese (choir)

March 22

TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

- 7AM** Mass
8AM Mass
11AM *No confessions scheduled*
† **12:10PM** [COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE.](#)
[COME HOME FOR EASTER](#)
5:30PM Mass

March 23

WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

- 7AM** Mass
7:30AM Morning Prayer, St. Anthony Chapel
8AM Mass
11AM to NOON Confessions
12:10PM Mass
5:30PM Mass
6:15PM to 7:00PM Confessions
7:30PM TENEBRÆ (choir)

March 24

HOLY THURSDAY

- 8AM** *The Cathedral opens.*
9AM Morning Prayer, St. Anthony Chapel
11AM to NOON Confessions
12:10PM MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER, REV. MSGR. W. RONALD JAMESON (contemporary choir)
† **5:30PM** SOLEMN MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER, DONALD CARDINAL WUERL (choir)
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10PM
9:45PM NIGHT PRAYER
The Cathedral closes at 10PM.

March 25

GOOD FRIDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

- 8AM** *The Cathedral opens.*
9AM Morning Prayer, St. Anthony Chapel
11AM to NOON Confessions
NOON REFLECTIONS ON THE LORD'S PASSION, REV. JOHN PAVLIK, O.F.M. CAP., Executive Director, Conference of Major Superiors of Men, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
† **1PM** LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION, DONALD CARDINAL WUERL (choir)
4PM LITURGIA DE LA PASIÓN DE N.S. JESUCRISTO, ADORACIÓN DE LA SANTA CRUZ, Y SANTA COMUNIÓN, MOST REV. MARIO E. DORSONVILLE (en Español)
7:30PM Stations of the Cross, REV. MSGR. W. RONALD JAMESON (in English)

March 26

HOLY SATURDAY

- 8AM** *The Cathedral opens.*
9AM Morning Prayer, St. Anthony Chapel
11AM to NOON Confessions
NOON to 7PM *No Masses during the day. The Cathedral closes at Noon & reopens at 7PM.*
† **8PM** EASTER VIGIL, DONALD CARDINAL WUERL (choir)

March 27

THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD, EASTER SUNDAY

Schedule of Masses:

- 7AM** REV. ISMAEL N. AYALA
8:30AM REV. JOHN J. HURLEY (cantor)
10AM DONALD CARDINAL WUERL (choir)
† **11:30AM** REV. MSGR. W. RONALD JAMESON (choir)
1PM REV. RAFAEL BARBIERI (en Español)
5:30PM VERY REV. JAMES J. GREENFIELD, O.S.F.S.
(contemporary choir)

† *Interpreted for the deaf*

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

What is Reconciliation and Why do we need it?

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (also called Confession) was instituted by Jesus Christ in His love and mercy for the Christian Faithful. The sacrament offers the Faithful forgiveness for all offenses committed against God. The Sacrament also reconciles us to the Church because the Church community is also wounded by one's sins.

When we sin, we hurt ourselves, other people and God. Through the sacrament of reconciliation, we acknowledge our sins before God and the Church. We express our sorrow, receive the forgiveness of Christ & the Church, make reparation for what we have done and resolve to do better in the future.

How Do I Make a Meaningful Confession?

Confession is not hard, but one should properly prepare themselves for the sacrament through an examination of conscience. Begin by placing yourself in the presence of God through prayer. Ask God, Our loving Father for healing and forgiveness. Carefully review your life since your last confession- what thoughts, actions, words have not conformed to God's love, to His Law or to the laws of the Church? Here are some questions based on the 10 Commandments to help you prepare:

- Do I pray to God every day? Have I thanked God for His gifts to me?
- Did I put my faith in danger through readings hostile to Catholic teachings or involvement in non-Catholic sects? Did I engage in superstitious practices: palm-reading or fortune-telling?
- Did I take the name of God in vain? Did I curse or take a false oath?
- Did I miss Mass on Sundays or holy days of obligation through my own fault? Am I attentive at Mass? Did I keep fast and abstinence on the prescribed days?
- Did I disobey my parents and lawful superiors in important matters?
- Did I hate or quarrel with anyone, or desire revenge? Did I refuse to forgive? Was I disrespectful?
- Did I get drunk? Did I take illicit drugs?
- Did I consent to, recommend, advise or actively take part in an abortion?
- Did I willfully look at pornography, entertain impure thoughts or engage in impure conversations? Did I use artificial means to prevent conception?
- Was I unfaithful to my spouse? Did I engage in sexual activity outside of marriage? Did I steal or damage another's property? Have I been honest and just in my business relations?
- Have I been responsive to the needs of the poor and respected the dignity of others?
- Did I tell lies? Did I sin by calumny, or detraction, of others? Did I judge others rashly in serious matters?
- Have I envied other people?

The Rite of Reconciliation: A Step by Step Guide

The sacrament can be face to face or anonymous with a screen between you and the priest. Choose the option which is the most comfortable for you.

1. The priest gives you a blessing or greeting. He may share a brief Scripture passage.
2. Make the Sign of the Cross and say: "Bless me father, for I have sinned. My last confession was..." (give the number of weeks, months, or years).
3. Confess all of your sins to the priest. The priest will help you to make a good confession. If you are unsure about how to confess or you feel uneasy, just ask him to help you. Answer his questions without hiding anything out of fear or shame. Nothing that you say to the priest will ever be revealed. Place your trust in God, a merciful Father who wants to forgive you.
4. Following your confession of sins, say: "I am sorry for these and all of my sins."
5. The priest assigns you a penance and offers advice to help you be a better Catholic.
6. Say an Act of Contrition, expressing your sorrow for your sins. There are several versions of the Act of Contrition but a common one is: "God, I am heartily sorry for having offended you, and I detest all my sins because I dread the loss of heaven and the pains of hell; but most of all because they offend you, my God, who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve with the help of your grace to confess my sins, do penance, and to amend my life. Amen."
7. The priest, acting in the person of Christ, then absolves you from your sins.
8. After you've left the Confessional or Reconciliation Room: Complete the penance you received.

This condensed guide for the Sacrament of Reconciliation is based on the Archdiocese's "The Light Is On For You," campaign. For more resources please see www.the-light-is-on.org.

El Sacramento de la Reconciliación

¿Qué es la Reconciliación y Porque la necesitamos?

La Reconciliación (también conocida como Confesión) es un sacramento instituido por Jesucristo en Su amor y misericordia para ofrecer el perdón a los pecadores por las ofensas cometidas a Dios. Al mismo tiempo, los pecadores se reconcilian con la Iglesia porque está herida por sus pecados. Cada vez que pecamos, nos herimos a nosotros mismos, a otras personas y a Dios. En la Reconciliación, reconocemos nuestros pecados ante Dios y Su Iglesia. Expresamos nuestro pesar de una manera especial, recibimos el perdón de Cristo y su Iglesia, reparamos lo que hemos hecho y decidimos comportarnos mejor en el futuro.

¿Cómo hacer una buena confesión?

La confesión no es difícil pero requiere preparación. Debemos empezar con una oración, ubicándonos ante la presencia de Dios, nuestro Padre Amado. Buscamos sanación con el perdón, a través del arrepentimiento y una decisión de no pecar más. Entonces revisamos nuestras vidas desde nuestra última confesión, buscando nuestros pensamientos, palabras y acciones que no estuvieron conforme al mandamiento de Dios de amarlo a él y a los demás por medio de la obediencia a sus leyes y las leyes de Su Iglesia. A esto se le llama examen de conciencia. Para hacer un examen de conciencia: Comience con una oración pidiendo la asistencia de Dios. Revise su vida con la ayuda de algunas preguntas, que están basadas en los 10 mandamientos (vea el siguiente panel). Dígale a Dios cuánto siente realmente haber pecado. Haga una firme resolución de no pecar otra vez.

- ¿Oro a Dios todos los días? ¿He agradecido a Dios por los regalos que me ha hecho?
- ¿Puse mi fe en peligro a través de lecturas contrarias a la enseñanza católica o envolviéndome en sectas no-católicas? ¿Participé en prácticas supersticiosas: lectura de mano o adivinación del futuro?
- ¿Juré el nombre de Dios en vano? ¿Maldije o di falso testimonio?
- ¿Falté a misa los domingos o días de guardar o de obligación a propósito? ¿Estoy atento(a) en la misa? ¿Guardo abstinencia en los días prescritos?
- ¿Desobedecí a mis padres y a los superiores de la ley en cosas importantes?
- ¿Odio o tengo disputas o deseos de venganza? ¿Niego el perdón? ¿He sido irrespetuoso?
- ¿Me embriago? ¿Consumo drogas ilícitas?
- ¿He consentido, recomendado, aconsejado o tomado parte activa en un aborto?
- ¿Intencionalmente, he mirado pornografía, entretenido pensamientos impuros, o participado en acciones o conversaciones impuras? ¿He usado cosas artificiales para prevenir la concepción?
- ¿He sido infiel a mi esposo o esposa? ¿He tenido actividad sexual fuera del matrimonio?
- ¿He robado o dañado la propiedad de otra persona? ¿He sido honesto y justo en los negocios?
- ¿He respondido a las necesidades de los pobres y respetado la dignidad de los otros?
- ¿He mentado? ¿He calumniado o difamado? ¿He juzgado a otros durante asuntos serio?
- ¿He envidiado a otra gente?

Rito de Reconciliación

La Reconciliación puede ser cara a cara o anónima, con una rejilla entre usted y el sacerdote. Escoja la opción que le sea más cómoda.

1. El sacerdote le da una bendición o lo saluda; puede que también comparta un pasaje de las Escrituras.
2. Haga la Señal de la Cruz y diga: *"Bendígame Padre, he pecado. Mi última confesión fue..."* (semanas, meses o años).
3. Confiese todos sus pecados al sacerdote. El sacerdote lo ayudará a hacer una buena confesión. Si usted no está seguro acerca de cómo debe hacer una buena confesión o cree que es difícil hacerlo, sólo pídale al sacerdote que lo (la) ayude. Responda a las preguntas sin esconder algo por temor o vergüenza. Ponga su confianza en Dios el Padre misericordioso que quiere perdonarlo.
4. Luego que haya confesado sus pecados diga: *"Me arrepiento por estos y todos mis pecados"*.
5. El sacerdote le asigna una penitencia y le aconseja para ayudarlo a ser un mejor católico
6. Haga el Acto de Contrición, expresando su arrepentimiento por sus pecados.
7. El sacerdote, actuando en la persona de Cristo, lo absuelve de sus pecados.
8. Después que usted salga del confesionario haga la penitencia que le fue impuesta.

Esta es una guía resumida para el Sacramento de la reconciliación y esta basa en la campaña de la Arquidiócesis "la luz está encendida para tí".

Para más información, vaya a www.the-light-es-on.org

Come Home for Easter

Lenten Communal Penance Service

Tuesday, March 22, 12:10 p.m.



We invite you to experience the love and mercy of Jesus Christ through the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** at our Lenten Communal Penance Service.

Experience the power of the sacrament, which restores us to God's grace and joins us with him in an intimate friendship.

Join parishioners and friends as we acknowledge our need for forgiveness from sin and reconciliation with God in preparation for the Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Priests from around the Archdiocese and our own St. Matthew's Rectory priests will be available for individual confessions in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, French, German, Kiswahili and American Sign.

Questions?

Contact the Rectory at 202-347-3215
CATHEDRAL OF SAINT MATTHEW THE APOSTLE
1725 Rhode Island Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036
www.stmatthewscathedral.org

Vuelve a Casa por Pascua

**Servicio Comunitario de la
Penitencia Cuaresmal
Martes 22 de Marzo,
12:10 del mediodía**



Están invitados a experimentar el amor y la misericordia de Jesucristo a través del sacramento de la Confesión en nuestro Servicio Comunal de Penitencia Cuaresmal.

Experimente el poder del sacramento, que nos devuelve a la gracia de Dios y nos une en una amistad íntima con Él.

Únete a los feligreses y amigos a reconocer nuestra necesidad de perdón del pecado y de la reconciliación con Dios en la preparación para la fiesta de la Resurrección de nuestro Señor Jesucristo. Sacerdotes de toda la archidiócesis y nuestro propio sacerdotes de la rectoría de san Mateo estarán disponibles para confesiones individuales en inglés, español, portugués italiano, francés, alemán, e intérprete para sordos.

Preguntas

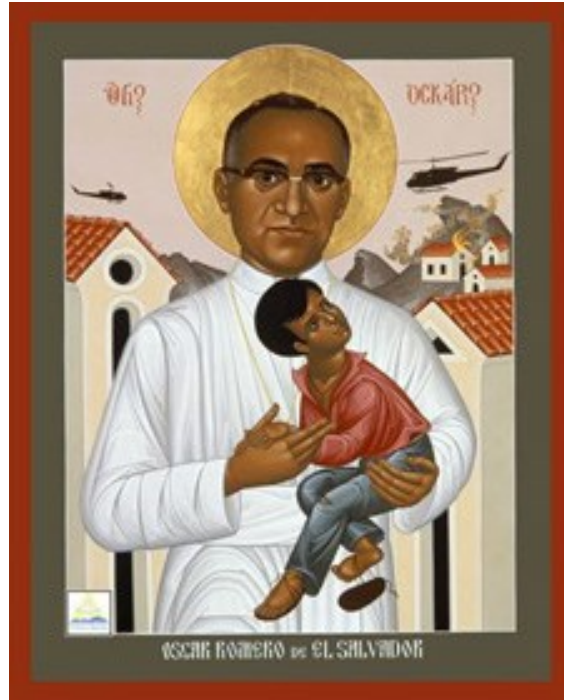
Llame a la Rectoría al 202-347-3215

CATEDRAL DE SAN MATEO APOSTOL

1725 Rhode Island Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036

www.stmatthewscathedral.org

Movie Screening - Proyección de la película “Monseñor: The Last Journey of Oscar Romero”



Thursday, March 31 at 6:45pm, East Conference Room
Refreshments will be served.

*Jueves, 31 de marzo a las 6:45 de la tarde,
Salón de Conferencias del Este. Se servirán refrescos.*

March 24th is the anniversary of Blessed Monseñor Oscar Romero's death, the Social Justice Committee invites you to reflect on the life and mission of the religious leader, whom Pope Francis has declared a martyr of the Church. All are invited to learn more about this courageous man who gave a voice to the oppressed poor of 1970's El Salvador.

A brief discussion will follow the showing of the film.

*El 24 de marzo es el aniversario del fallecimiento del Beato Monseñor Oscar Romero, el Comité de Justicia Social le invita a reflexionar sobre la vida y la misión del líder religioso quien el Papa Francisco declaró mártir de la Iglesia. Todos están invitados a aprender más acerca de este hombre valiente que dió una voz a los oprimidos pobres de El Salvador de la década de 1970.
Una breve discusión seguirá la proyección de la película.*

The film is in Spanish with English subtitles.

La película es en español con subtítulos en inglés.

Questions? *¿Preguntas?* Daniel Zazueta, dhzazueta@gmail.com &
Franz Kuo, franzkuo@gmail.com