

TODAY'S READINGS

Whoever serves me must follow me. (John 12:26)
 You might wonder whether Jesus is giving the cold shoulder to these Greeks. They seem anxious to talk to him, but they can't seem to get a word in. Upon hearing that they want to see him, Jesus gives an enigmatic response: "Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit" (John 12:24). What kind of an answer is that?

Actually, it's the right answer! These Gentile converts to Judaism have come to worship at the Passover feast, but Jesus is saying that their Passover will not happen until after his resurrection. He is the "grain of wheat" who will be a sacrifice for sin. His death was necessary so that he could produce "much fruit" in the form of salvation for everyone. No one will be excluded, not even these Gentiles!

Today we can celebrate the fact that we too were once outsiders but are now a part of the "in crowd." Most of the people reading these words are Gentiles, not a part of the chosen people with whom God first made his covenant. We "once were far off" but have been brought near to God "by the blood of Christ" (Ephesians 2:13). We are his adopted children, and there is no better family to be part of.

A question to reflect on, then, is "How welcoming am I to those I may consider outsiders?" We all have some notion of who belongs in church and who doesn't: that old man who never seems to smile. That couple whose kids can't sit still at Mass. That young man who seems too "liberal" or that older woman who seems too "conservative." They are all part of our family. They have all been grafted into Christ along with us. May we treasure each of them just as much as Jesus treasures us!

"Thank you, Lord, for welcoming me into your family. Teach me how to be just as welcoming. May I exclude no one from receiving my attention, consideration, and friendship."

Taken from *The Word Among Us*, Lent 2015, Vol. 34, Number 3: Used with permission.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday 22 Jer 31:31-34 / Heb 5:7-9 / Jn 12:20-33
Monday 23 Dn 13:1-9,15-17,19-30, 33-62 / Jn 8:1-11
St. Turibius of Mogrovejo
Tuesday 24 Nm 21:4-9 / Jn 8:21-30
Wednesday 25 Is 7:10-14; 8:10 / Heb 10:4-10 /
The Annunciation of the Lord Lk 1:26-38
Thursday 26 Gn 17:3-9 / Jn 8:51-59
Friday 27 Jer 20:10-13 / Jn 10:31-42
Saturday 28 Ez 37:21-28 / Jn 11:45-56
Sunday 29 Is 50:4-7 / Phil 2:6-11 / Mk 14:1—15:47
Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

LECTURAS DE HOY

Jesús, nuestro Salvador, decidió morir en la cruz para que los humanos recibiéramos la salvación. Esta es la esencia misma del Evangelio. Él es la "semilla" que cayó en la tierra y murió y produjo abundante fruto. Ahora, los que hemos sido bautizados en su muerte y su resurrección estamos igualmente llamados a entregarle nuestra vida —es decir, morir a la vida de pecado— para que también demos mucho fruto.

La idea de morir como un grano de trigo es algo que a veces nos atemoriza, porque el costo del discipulado nos parece excesivo. Incluso Jesús, el Hijo de Dios, se sintió intimidado: "Ahora... tengo miedo" (Juan 12, 27), cuando pensó en la agonía que tendría que soportar en Getsemaní; pero él sabía que por su muerte y su resurrección mucha gente llegaría al Reino de su Padre.

El autor de la Carta a los Hebreos, refiriéndose a esta lucha de Cristo, explicó que el Señor "ofreció oraciones y súplicas, con fuertes voces y lágrimas", pero que "A pesar de que era el Hijo, aprendió a obedecer padeciendo, y llegado a su perfección, se convirtió en la causa de la salvación eterna para todos los que lo obedecen" (Hebreos 5, 7-9).

Este es el fruto de la crucifixión de Cristo, la "hora" para la cual vino al mundo. Por su muerte, Jesús canceló la deuda de pecado que nosotros debíamos pagar y ganó para nosotros la vida eterna. Dios Padre demostró la inmensidad de su amor estableciendo una nueva alianza con su pueblo, un pacto escrito en el corazón de los fieles (Jeremías 31, 33). A diferencia de la antigua alianza, que fue quebrantada una y otra vez por el pueblo de Israel, el nuevo pacto es inviolable porque no depende de la imperfección y la flaqueza del corazón humano, sino de la presencia del Espíritu Santo, que concede la gracia a todos los que se acercan a Dios con humildad y confianza.

"Señor mío Jesucristo, concédenos tu fortaleza para superar el miedo a la muerte y morir a nosotros mismos como un grano de trigo, para que demos mucho fruto al trabajar por la construcción de tu Reino en la tierra."

Escogida con el permiso de *La Palabra Entre Nosotros*, Vol. 34, Número 3: Cuaresma 2015.

LIVING LENT

The Light is ON – “The Church must be a place of mercy freely given, where everyone can feel welcomed, loved, forgiven and encouraged to live the good life of the Gospel.” Pope Francis, (*The Joy of the Gospel*, 114). This Wednesday, **March 25**, and every Wednesday of Lent from 6:30pm to 8pm, the doors of St. Matthew’s are open and the Light is On for You, with confessions in English and Spanish.

Stations of the Cross – The Via Crucis is a journey made in the Holy Spirit, the 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 St. John Paul II are prayed each **Friday** during Lent in English at 6pm, each **Sunday** during Lent in Spanish at 2:15pm, and on **Good Friday** at 7:30pm.

Final Simple Lenten Meal – The Social Justice Committee invites parishioners and friends to our final Simple Lenten Meal this Friday, **March 27** in the North Conference Room after the 6pm Multilingual Stations of the Cross. The Liturgy Committee will prepare and serve a simple meal, while the Little Sisters of the Poor will speak on their mission of serving and caring for the elderly poor. All donations collected will benefit the Little Sisters’ good work.

Holy Week Confessions – The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at our Lenten Communal Penance Service on Tuesday of Holy Week (see the insert) and as follows:
 11am - Noon—Monday and Wednesday of Holy Week, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday (no Confessions at regular Saturday time of 4-5pm).
 6:15 - 7:15pm—Wednesday of Holy Week (Confessions before the 7:30pm Tenebræ service).

You May Still Join! – Lenten Faith Sharing Groups are reading *The Church of Mercy* by Pope Francis and meeting weekly for reflection. For more information, contact Tricia at faithformationdc@gmail.com.

Spiritual Direction – Are you interested in deepening your relationship with God? This Lent, St. Matthew’s begins providing and referring interested persons to qualified spiritual directors. For more information, contact Theresa Prymuszewski, Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation, at 202-587-5139 or tprymuszewski@stmatthewscathedral.org.

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Rice Bowl Program – CRS’ Rice Bowl program is a way to encounter Jesus through others, especially the most vulnerable. Paper coin boxes or “Rice Bowls” for collecting change during Lent are available in the Cathedral and rectory. Your prayers, fasting and almsgiving will help CRS continue to provide life-saving assistance in nearly 100 countries.

MILESTONES

IN CATHEDRAL HISTORY

1861 – February 16: Congress authorizes the sale of St. Matthew’s Cemetery, at 14th & U Streets. After the sale of the cemetery, Fr. Charles White with the pastors of St. Patrick’s, St. Peter’s and St. Dominic’s parishes purchased about forty acres of the Fenwick farm for the first section of Mount Olivet Cemetery.

175TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL EVENTS 2015

Keynote Address by Cardinal Seán O’Malley – St. Matthew’s Parish 175th Anniversary Keynote Address will be given by **His Eminence Seán Cardinal O’Malley on Sunday, April 26 at 3pm** at the



Cathedral. All are invited to attend this free event and the reception following.

175th Anniversary Special Events

Sunday, April 26, 3pm

Address by Cardinal Seán O’Malley, followed by a reception

Sunday, October 11, after all Masses

Celebration of our many cultures, with traditional food, dress, music and dance

Saturday, October 17, 6pm

175th Anniversary Gala, with cocktails, dinner and dancing

Sunday, November 1, 12:00 noon (combining 11:30am and 1pm Masses)

Bilingual Mass, with Cardinal Wuerl as Principal Celebrant, followed by a reception

Sunday, November 22, 7:30pm

175th Anniversary Concert, featuring the Schola Cantorum and Festival Singers

Sunday, December 13, 7:30pm

Lessons and Carols, a celebration of the Birth of Christ in Word and Song, featuring the Schola Cantorum

*Times subject to change.
Please watch for future announcements.*

NEWS AND NOTES



We celebrate the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary this Wednesday, March 25. As food for meditation, note the mural above the entrance to Our Lady's Chapel depicting this pivotal event in salvation history, and read Deacon Merella's reflection on the

Magnificat, the prayer uttered by Mary during her Visitation of Elizabeth.

Catholic Business Network Reception – Please join CBN-DC for a networking reception on Thursday, **March 26**, 6-8pm, at Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School. CBN-D.C. is an independent nonprofit organization bringing together businesses and individual professionals to create valuable networking opportunities. Funds raised support students in need at D.C. Catholic schools. To register, visit www.cbndc.org or contact Justin Silvers at 202-957-5188 or jsilvers@cbndc.org.

Decorators Needed! – On Holy Saturday, **April 4** we will gather to decorate the Cathedral for Easter. We need volunteers from 9:30am until 11am to prepare flowers and other decorations. There is no need to sign up in advance—just come!

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

Adopt-a-Family Easter Drive – We are collecting Safeway gift cards for our Adopt-A-Family families for Easter. Volunteers will collect donations at the Cathedral main entrance after all Masses this weekend, **March 21 – 22**. You also may bring or mail your donation to the rectory, or deposit it in the offertory basket during Mass. Checks should be payable St. Matthew's Cathedral with “Adopt-A-Family” on the note line. For more information or to volunteer, contact Pedro Carroll at pedro.carroll@mac.com.

Monthly Rosary Procession for Life – Our rosary procession to the abortion clinic, Planned Parenthood, will take place on Saturday, **March 28** at 10:45am. Participants should gather at the main entrance of the Cathedral, and are invited to attend the 12:10pm Cathedral Mass following the prayer at the clinic. For more information on the Respect Life Ministry, contact Justin Silvers at stmatthewsrespectlife@yahoo.com.



the Fourth Sunday of Lent.

Visit the parish Facebook page for more photos of this year's Laetare Vespers for

PARISH CALENDAR

March 22 – March 29

- Sunday 22**—Las clases de Catequesis, Catecumenado y Catequesis Familiar continúan a las 11:00 de la mañana. The 1pm Mass commemorates the life of Archbishop Oscar Romero. Padre Rafael tendrá las confesiones después de la misa de 1 de la tarde. **El Vía Crucis** se rezará (en español) a las 2:15 de la tarde. The Cathedral Coffeehouse meets after the 5:30pm Mass in the West Conference Room.
- Tuesday 24**—Midday Lenten prayer is prayed in St. Anthony's Chapel following the 12:10pm Mass. Legión de María se reúne a las 5:30 de la tarde hasta las 7 en el salón del Oeste. El grupo de Oración se reúne a las 7 de la tarde en el salón de conferencias del Oeste.
- Wednesday 25**—Confessions are heard from 6:30 to 8pm in English and Spanish. Breaking Open the Word meets at 7pm in the West Conference Room.
- Friday 27**—**Stations of the Cross** are prayed at 6pm, followed by a Simple Lenten Meal in the North Conference Room.
- Saturday 28**—A rosary procession to Planned Parenthood begins at 10:45am.
- Sunday 29**—**Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion**. Palms are distributed at all Masses. **Donald Cardinal Wuerl** gives the solemn blessing of palms at 9:45am, followed by Mass at 10am in English. No hay clases de Catequesis, Catecumenado y Catequesis Familiar hasta el domingo **12 de abril**. **El Vía Crucis** se rezará (en español) a las 2:15 de la tarde. The Spanish Prayer Group for Young Adults meets after the 1pm Spanish Mass in the North Conference Room. The Cathedral Coffeehouse meets after the 5:30pm Mass in the West Conference Room.

NOTICIAS DE LA PARROQUIA

Colecta Anual de Pascua – Estamos recogiendo tarjetas del Safeway para nuestras familias del programa Adopte una Familia para la Pascua. Habrá voluntarios en la entrada de la Catedral después de todas las misas este fin de semana, **21 – 22 de marzo**. Pueden entregar o mandar por correo su donación a la rectoría, o ponerla en la cesta de las ofrendas durante la misa. Cheques deben ir a la Catedral de San Mateo, con la línea de nota indicando que es para el programa de “Adopte una Familia”. Para más información o ayudar llame a la rectoría o mande un correo a: socialjustice@stmatthewscathedral.org.

¡La Luz está Encendida para ti! – ¿Tienes dificultad perdonado a alguna persona o a un ser querido? ¿Has considerado primero la reconciliación con Dios? los miércoles de 6:30 de la tarde a 8:00 de la noche, las puertas de la Catedral de San Mateo estarán abiertas y ¡la Luz está encendida para ti!

Vía Crucis – El Vía Crucis, revisado por San Juan Pablo II, se reza 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.

Clases de Confirmación para Adultos – Se ofrecerán clases de preparación para el sacramento de la Confirmación para adultos. Las clases serán los domingos **12, y 19 de abril y 3 de mayo** de 2:45 a 4:00 de la tarde. Las personas interesadas deben traer el certificado de bautizo vigente y es requerido asistir a la conferencia del Cardenal Seán O'Malley el domingo **26 de abril**. Para más información pueden dejar un mensaje a Fátima al 202-347-3215 ext 543.

Última Cena simple de Cuaresma – El Comité de Justicia Social invita a feligreses y amigos a la última Cena Simple de Cuaresma de este año este viernes en el salón del Norte, después del Vía Crucis multilingüe de las 6 de la tarde. El comité de Liturgia preparará y servirá una cena simple, también tendremos como invitadas a las Hermanitas de los Pobres quienes hablarán sobre su misión de servicio y cuidado a los ancianos pobres. Todas las donaciones beneficiarán al buen trabajo de las Hermanitas.

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Programa de Plato de Arroz – CRS Programa de Plato de Arroz como una forma de encontrar a Jesús a través de los demás, especialmente entre los más vulnerables del mundo. Las cajas de cartón, o Platos de Arroz, pueden utilizarse para

recoger monedas durante la Cuaresma y están disponibles en la Catedral y la rectoría. Sus oraciones, el ayuno y el dar limosna durante esta temporada de cuaresma ayudarán a CRS para continuar proveyendo la ayuda que se ofrece en casi 100 países.

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.

Servicios Legales de Caridades Católicas y la Reforma Inmigratoria – Caridades Católicas ofrecerá talleres de información de 2 horas de duración sobre la acción ejecutiva del Presidente y sobre la Acción Diferida para Padres de Ciudadanos Estadounidenses y Residentes Permanentes Legales (DAPA) y sobre la Acción Diferida para los llegados en la Infancia (DACA). Los talleres incluirán consultas individuales para determinar elegibilidad.

Fechas, Parroquias, e información de contacto:

- **12 de abril**, 1:30 de la tarde: Sagrado Corazón (Washington, DC), 202-234-8000
- **19 de abril**, 5 de la tarde: San Juan el Evangelista (Clinton, MD), 301-868-1070
- **26 de abril**, 3 de la tarde: San Martin de Tours (Gaithersburg, MD), 301-990-3203

Procesión Mensual del Rosario por la Vida – La procesión mensual del rosario a la clínica de aborto, *Planned Parenthood*, será el sábado **28 de marzo**, a las 10:45 de la mañana. Participantes están invitados a asistir la misa del mediodía, después de orar en la clínica. Para participar, reúnanse en la entrada central de la Catedral.

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

- Domingo 22** Jer 31:31-34 / Heb 5:7-9 / Jn 12:20-33
Lunes 23 Dn 13:1-9,15-17,19-30,33-62 / Jn 8:1-11
San Toribio de Mogrovejo
Martes 24 Núm 21:4-9 / Jn 8:21-30
Miércoles 25 Is 7:10-14,8-10 / Heb 10:4-10 /
La Anunciación del Señor Lc 1:26-38
Jueves 26 Gén 17:3-9 / Jn 8:51-59
Viernes 27 Jer 20:10-13 / Jn 10:31-42
Sábado 28 Ez 37:21-28 / Jn 11:45-56
Domingo 29 Is 50:4-7 / Fil 2:6-11 / Mc 14:1—15:47
Domingo de Ramos la Pasión del Señor

FAITH FORMATION

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.

R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) – R.C.I.A is an ongoing process of exploring our Catholic faith. Please contact Theresa Prymuszewski for more information (contact info above).

YOUNG ADULTS

Cathedral Coffeehouse – Sunday, March 22 – following 5:30 Mass – Cathedral West Conference Room – Looking for a quick and easy way to deepen your spirituality and learn more about your faith during Lent? Join Bro. Gabriel, Bro. Patrick, and other young adults after the 5:30pm Mass for Cathedral Coffeehouse, an exciting new weekly series. **In 20 minutes or less** we promise you'll learn something new and have a few good laughs. This week's topic will be: ***Jesus Christ and the Case of the Mistaken Identity***. Questions? Email stmattsyam@gmail.com.

Save the Date: C+YA for Supper – Thursday, March 26 – 7pm - Alero Restaurant (1724 Connecticut Avenue / Dupont Circle) – All young adults and fellow foodies are

encouraged to join us for our monthly supper. Friends and coworkers welcome! This month we're headed to **Alero Mexican Restaurant** in Dupont Circle. Sign up [here](http://goo.gl/T0B7Wa) (<http://goo.gl/T0B7Wa>) by Monday, March 23. Email Sean at jm243@gmail.com for more information or to RSVP.

Blessing of Engaged Couples –

On Sunday, **April 19**, Msgr. Jameson and other parish clergy will confer a blessing of engaged couples at the 11:30am Mass. Couples who are scheduled to be married at the Cathedral or are receiving marriage preparation here at St. Matthew's are invited to attend and receive the blessing. After the homily, the engaged couples present will be invited into the sanctuary for the blessing (and a beautiful photo op!), and will return to their seats afterward. To participate, please email us at Reply@stmatthewscathedral.org or notify the St. Matthew's clergy who is responsible for their marriage preparation.

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 ceremony 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.

2015 Annual Jubilarian Mass

– **Cardinal Donald Wuerl** will celebrate the annual Jubilarian Mass honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 51+ years on Sunday, **June 21** at 2pm at the National Shrine. Call 202-587-5143 to **register by Monday, April 13**.

MASS INTENTIONS

March 22 – March 29

Sunday, March 22

7am – John P. Crawford
8:30am – Joseph J. Grassi, Jr.
10am – Arch Moore, Jr.
11:30am – Ruth Vera
1pm – Celmira Borjas
5:30pm – Erma M. Paliani

Monday, March 23

7am – Mary Bunnell
8am – Jorge Abad (living)
12:10pm – Teopista Sabelino
5:30pm – Bill Bergquist

Tuesday, March 24

7am – Peter Maher
8am – Joseph Strehlen
12:10pm – Carl Schulthesis
5:30pm – Edward Malloy

Wednesday, March 25

7am – Thomas P. Reilly
8am – Frank Creaser
12:10pm – Vincenta Jaime Matzen

Thursday, March 26

7am – Dee Roberge
12:10pm – Leonard Labas
5:30 pm – Peace in the World

Friday, March 27

12:10pm – Vu Nhat Thanh
5:30pm – Alfonso Araque

Saturday, March 28

12:10pm – Vanda B. Santos
5:30pm – Zivko Zic

Sunday, March 29

7am – Alexandra Bilotti
8:30am – Philip Chang
10am – Ruth Vera
11:30am – Lolo Sarnoff
1pm – Todos los Feligreses
5:30pm – Julius Egoegonwa

MAGNIFICAT

Most of us know of the “Magnificat” from Luke’s gospel (verses 46-55), the only gospel that includes this text when it is proclaimed typically during the Advent season. Some of us may know of it from its singular place in daily Evening Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours. During this Evening Prayer from early centuries of the Church, the Magnificat was proclaimed in chant form. In later centuries the chanted version developed into more elaborate forms of music created by a host of famous composers, such as two Bachs, Vivaldi, Mozart, Pergolesi, Rutter, Tavener and Vaughan-Williams among others.

But, whether the Magnificat is sung or recited, we should give a closer look to its words as something more than as text for beautiful music. In recent years, prominent scripture scholars have taken a more critical look at this text, have come to a new understanding of this text and have uncovered a much different image of Mary than we typically find in paintings and statues. The text contained in Luke is not something he personally wrote, but rather is derived from ancient Hebrew texts that came to be a common hymn sung by a particular community of Jews, some who became Christians. This community was a group of Jewish people of ancient heritage called *anawim*. One might think of them as today’s untouchables because they were the sick, the poor, the oppressed, society’s downtrodden of their day. So how did these words come to be placed in Mary’s mouth?

Scholars now believe that early Christians saw Mary as the spokesperson for these *anawim*. If we read Luke’s words of the Magnificat closely, Mary is not a person who is meek and mild, not passive or submissive, not humble or set apart, not voiceless. Rather, she is a spokesperson, someone articulate who is engaged, an active participant, a woman of strength. Knowing herself as a woman of God, she becomes the prophetic voice for the reversal of the life experienced by the *anawim*, of 2000 years ago and certainly today.

Absorbing these words of the Magnificat, as it describes Mary, now becomes a challenge for us who come to see Mary as different person. She is person who speaks out for the poor, who attends to the needy, who shares with the poor, who proclaims justice and who transforms lives. Our paradigm of Mary is now radically shifted and we more truly understand her voice welling up from within: “My whole being proclaims the greatness of my God, every fiber of my being relies on you, my God, who gives me strength.”

—Deacon Bartholomew Merella

MAGNIFICAT

La mayoría de nosotros conocemos el “Magnificat” por el Evangelio de Lucas (versos 46-55), el único evangelio que incluye este texto cuando es proclamado durante la época de Adviento. Algunos de nosotros lo conocemos por el lugar especial en las Oraciones diarias de la Tarde de la Liturgia de las Horas. Durante esta Oración de la Tarde de los siglos primeros de la Iglesia, el Magnificat era proclamado en canto gregoriano. En siglos más adelante la versión gregoriana se desarrolló en formas más elaboradas de música creada por varios famosos compositores, como: Bach, Vivaldi, Mozart, Pergolesi, Rutter, Taverner y Vaugh-Williams entre otros.

Pero, esta tarde al escuchar el Magnificat cantado, deberíamos prestar atención a sus palabras, como algo más que un texto de música bella. En años recientes, expertos prominentes de las escrituras, han mirado con más atención a este texto y han llegado a un nuevo entendimiento del texto y descubrieron una imagen diferente de María de lo que encontramos en cuadros y estatuas. El texto de Lucas, no es algo que él escribió personalmente, sino que es derivado de antiguos textos del hebreo, que llegaron a ser himnos cantados por una comunidad particular de judíos, y algunos de ellos se hicieron cristianos. Esta comunidad era un grupo de personas judías de cultura antigua, llamada *anawim*, del hebreo. Uno puede pensar de ellos, como los intocables de hoy, porque eran los enfermos, los pobres, los oprimidos, los más bajos de la sociedad en esos días. Por tanto ¿Cómo esas palabras vinieron de la boca de María?

Los expertos ahora creen que los primeros cristianos vieron a María como el portavoz de esos marginados. Si leemos las palabras de Lucas en el Magnificat más cercanamente, María no es una persona dócil o suave, no pasiva o sumisa, no sin voz. Más bien ella es un portavoz, alguien articulado que se envuelve, y una participante activa, una mujer de fortaleza. Sabiendo que es una mujer de Dios, ella es la voz profética por los que en la vida sufren malas experiencias por el *anawim*, de hace 2000 años y ciertamente hoy día.

Absorbiendo esas palabras del Magnificat, como describe a María, ahora se convierte en un desafío para nosotros al ver a María de una forma diferente. Ella es la persona que habla por el pobre, que atiende al necesitado, quien comparte con el pobre, quien proclama justicia y quien transforma vidas. Nuestra percepción de María está cambiada ahora radicalmente, y entendemos mejor su voz brotando desde dentro: “Mi ser entero proclama la grandeza de mi Dios, cada fibra de mi ser depende de ti, mi Dios, quien me da fortaleza.”

—Díacono Bartholomew Merella

Come Home for Easter

Lenten Communal Penance Service

Tuesday, March 31, 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

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

March 29 PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

*Schedule of Masses
with the distribution of palms:*

5:30PM (Saturday, March 28) REV. MSGR. W. RONALD JAMESON (cantor)
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 REV. RAFAEL BARBIERI (en Español)
5:30PM VERY REV. JAMES J. GREENFIELD, O.S.F.S. (contemporary choir)

March 30 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 31 TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

7AM Mass
8AM Mass
11AM *No confessions scheduled*
† **12:10PM** COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE
5:30PM Mass

April 1 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)

April 2 HOLY THURSDAY

8AM *The Cathedral opens.*
9AM Morning Prayer, St. Anthony Chapel
11AM to NOON Confessions (7 confessors)
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.

April 3 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. TIMOTHY P. KESICKI, S.J., President, Jesuit Conference of the U. S.
† **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, REV. RAFAEL BARBIERI
7:30PM Stations of the Cross, REV. MSGR. W. RONALD JAMESON (in English)

April 4 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)

April 5 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)
The Rectory is closed today and Easter Monday, April 6.



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.

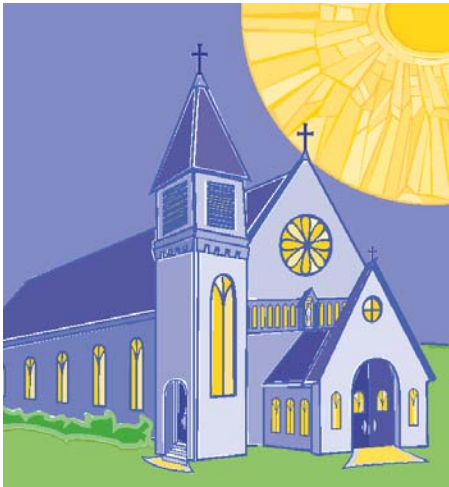
Sign up using the enrollment form on the other side or go online to www.faithdirect.net and use our parish code **DC284** to enroll today!



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 4th 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, or by logging in to your account through 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, or contact Pam Erwin at the Rectory at 202-347-3215 x537 or 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: _____
City/State/Zip Code: _____
Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Church Envelope #: _____

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.