

## TODAY'S READINGS

**W**e are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were obliged to do. (Luke 17:10)

Didn't Jesus call us his friends? Aren't we called sons and daughters of God? Then why does he tell us to call ourselves "unprofitable servants"? Sometimes, Jesus can seem so confusing!

Actually, Jesus is not saying that we are worthless. We are all God's children, and we are all his friends. Neither is he saying that our works are worthless or unprofitable. Surely all the apostles who built the Church made valuable and worthwhile contributions. Surely saints like Francis of Assisi and Mother Teresa made a huge difference.

Here's the point. Our works for the Lord or the Church can deepen our faith. They are good for us and for the people we serve. They actually help build the Church. But they cannot earn us salvation. They do not give us the right to demand anything from God.

Jesus wants us to be as humble as he was. He never flaunted himself or insisted on special treatment because he is God. No, he emptied himself and took on the form of a slave. He obeyed his Father in every way. And because of that, Jesus was exalted (Philippians 2:6-10).

Jesus wants us to keep in proper perspective all the words of recognition, praise, and congratulations that people give us. He doesn't want who we are or what we do to go to our heads. This is why he rebuked James and John when they asked for seats of honor in his kingdom (Mark 10:35-40). It's why he rebuked Peter for suggesting that Jesus was too important to be crucified (Matthew 16:21-23).

In the end, we are all "unprofitable servants" (Luke 17:10). Every breath we take comes from the Lord. Every good deed we do is a sign of his grace at work in our lives. But being "unprofitable" isn't necessarily a bad thing. It's just a humble recognition that we are God's children, redeemed, called, and equipped to build his kingdom.

*"Lord, teach me to serve gratefully, humbly, and faithfully."*

Taken from *The Word Among Us*, October 20156 Vol. 35, Number 9: Used with permission.

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS

<b>Sunday 2</b>	Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4 / 2 Tm 1:6-8,13-14 / Lk 17:5-10
<b>Monday 3</b>	Gal 1:6-12 / Lk 10:25-37
<b>Tuesday 4</b>	Gal 1:13-24 / Lk 10:38-42
<i>St. Francis of Assisi</i>	
<b>Wednesday 5</b>	Gal 2:1-2,7-14 / Lk 11:1-4
<i>Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos</i>	
<b>Thursday 6</b>	Gal 3:1-5 / Lk 11:5-13
<i>St. Bruno, Bl. Marie Rose Durocher</i>	
<b>Friday 7</b>	Gal 3:7-14 / Lk 11:15-26
<i>Our Lady of the Rosary</i>	
<b>Saturday 8</b>	Gal 3:22-29 / Lk 11:27-28
<b>Sunday 9</b>	2 Kgs 5:14-17 / 2 Tm 2:8-13 / Lk 17:11-19

## 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 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!

## PARISH CALENDAR

### October 2 – 9

**Sunday 2**—A second collection for Cathedral maintenance is taken at all Masses.



**The 8:30am Mass is cancelled.** Cardinal Wuerl celebrates the Red Mass at 10am in English. Padre Rafael tendrá las confesiones después de la misa de 1 de la tarde.

**Monday 3**—The Parish Council meets at 6:45pm in the East Conference Room.

**Tuesday 4**—The Married Couples Group meets in the North Conference Room at 6:30pm. El grupo de Oración se reúne a las 7 de la tarde en el salón de conferencias del Norte.

**Wednesday 5**—RCIA meets in the North Conference Room at 7pm.

Sacred Page, Sunday Scripture Reflections meets at 7pm in the West Conference Room.

**Thursday 6**—The ADW Sacraments course meets at 7pm in the North Conference Room.

**Friday 7**—**First Friday Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** is held after the 12:10pm Mass till 5pm.

**Sunday 9**—The Little Sisters of the Poor accept donations after all Masses.

Hispanic Heritage receptions are held in the North Conference Room after the 8:30am, 10am, 11:30am & 1pm Masses.

Children's Faith Formation classes meet at 9:45am at St. Matthew's Education Center.

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

A Landings session is held at 1pm in the Quinn Conference Room.

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

## JUBILEE OF MERCY

**27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time** – “The most important thing in the life of every man and every woman is not that they should never fall along the way. The important thing is to get back up, not to stay on the ground licking your wounds. The Lord of mercy always forgives me; he always offers me the possibility of starting over. He loves me for what I am, he wants to raise me up, and he extends his hand to me. This is one of the tasks of the Church: to help people perceive that there are no situations that they cannot get out of. For as long as we are alive it is always possible to start over, all we have to do is let Jesus embrace us and forgive us.” (Pope Francis in Washington, DC)

## FAITH FORMATION



*A Blessing of Catechists was conferred by Msgr. Jameson at the 11:30am Mass on Sunday, September 25. The congregation was invited to join in the blessing.*

**Married Couples Group** – This DVD faith-sharing discussion group continues to meet biweekly. Married couples are welcome to attend any and all sessions. The next session is Tuesday, **October 4** in the North Conference Room.

**Small Faith Sharing Groups** – Our fall small faith sharing groups will

focus on **Cardinal Donald Wuerl’s** recent book, *Ways to Pray: Growing Closer to God*. Join one of our small groups to read and discuss how we can improve our prayer life to bring us closer to God. Groups meet once a week for four or five consecutive weeks. Look for the signup table after Mass on Sunday, **October 16**. Contact Tricia Schmitt at [Tricia.Schmittdc@gmail.com](mailto:Tricia.Schmittdc@gmail.com) for more information.

**Sacred Page** – This weekly Bible Study reflects upon the upcoming Sunday Mass readings. Join our Cathedral seminarians each Wednesday at 7 pm in the West Conference Room to spiritually prepare for the Liturgy!

**Returning and Inactive Catholics Welcome!** – If you are a Catholic who has been away, we invite you to be an active part of us again. *Landings* is an 8-week series that offers “a safe place to land,” a place for listening and being heard, a place for asking questions and reconnecting with the faith as an adult. If you or if you know someone who may be interested, please contact Deacon Stuart Wilson-Smith, C.S.P at [swilsonsmith@paulist.org](mailto:swilsonsmith@paulist.org), or visit <http://landingsintl.org/>.

**Volunteer for Sunday Children’s Faith Formation** – An On-site Assistant is needed for our Sunday Children’s Faith Formation program. The assistant must be available Sundays during the catechetical year (September - May) from 9 to 11am, at three Saturday retreats (First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation, in March and April), and at two Sacramental celebrations (Saturday First Reconciliation, and First Communion at the 11:30am Mother’s Day Mass). Successful completion of the Archdiocesan Child Protection Policy also is

required. To apply, contact Theresa Prymuszewski at 202-587-5143 or [tprymuszewski@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:tprymuszewski@stmatthewscathedral.org).

**“The ISIS Genocide of Christians in the Middle East and Policies to Aid Them”** – Join us on Tuesday, **October 25** for this discussion led by Dame of Malta, Nina Shea at 7pm in the North Conference Room. All are welcome to attend. [Please see the flyer on the parish website.](#)

**Saturday Bible Study** – The Parables of Mercy will be the topic of Fr. Jack Hurley’s Bible Study on Saturdays, **November 5, 12 and 19**, from 10:30 to 11:45am in the East Conference Room. Besides your Bible, you might want to purchase a copy of *The Parables of Mercy*, published by Our Sunday Visitor.

## OCTOBER PRAYER

**“Mary’s gaze!” – Pray the Holy Rosary in October** – October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary, with the Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary celebrated on Friday, **October 7**. Pope Francis urges us to contemplate the mysteries of the Holy Rosary “simply and lovingly,” gazing at Jesus as Mary did “at all the moments of his life.” Need an aid? Download a free copy of [“Meditations on the Rosary Based on the Message of Pope Francis on the Occasion of the XXXI World Youth Day – Krakow 2016.”](#)

**Pope Francis’ October Prayer Intentions** – Please join in prayer for Pope Francis’ intentions for October: that journalists, in carrying out their work, may always be motivated by respect for truth and a strong sense of ethics; and that World Mission Day [**October 23, 2016**] may renew within all Christian communities the joy of the Gospel and the responsibility to announce it.

## LITURGY AND MUSIC

**Next Sunday's Schola Music** – Curious about what you will hear musically at the upcoming Sunday's 10 and 11:30am Masses? Click [here](#) or check the front page banner of the parish website.

**Morning of Renewal** – On Saturday, **October 22**, 9am - Noon in the North Conference Room, award-winning writer and speaker on liturgy and church renewal, Rita Ferrone, will lead a morning of renewal for those involved in liturgical ministry or interested in rediscovering the power of liturgies that are celebrated with care and conviction. What role does the Liturgy play in our becoming "Missionary Disciples," as Pope Francis urges? Check upcoming bulletins and the parish website for more information.

**Schola Cantorum Tenor Openings** – A limited number of tenor openings remain in the *Schola Cantorum*. 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. Contact Thomas Stehle, Pastoral Associate for Liturgy and Director of Music Ministries, at [tstehle@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:tstehle@stmatthewscathedral.org).

## OUTREACH

**Fall Feast of Treats for the Homeless** – The Social Justice & Community Services Committee will host a dinner for our homeless friends on Sunday, **October 23** at 3pm. Contact Paulin Leonida at [lmmapaulina@gmail.com](mailto:lmmapaulina@gmail.com) or 202-630-

0119 to help with any of the following:  
 - Set up, serve, and provide hospitality;  
 - Make or purchase food; or  
 - Give a monetary donation for food and supplies

These biannual dinners are a huge success because of you! We look forward to hearing from you.

**Lampedusa: Concerts for Refugees** – On Friday, **October 21** at 8pm, an acoustical performance benefitting the **Jesuit Refugee Service** will be held at George Washington University Lisner Auditorium, featuring Emmylou Harris, Steve Earle, Patty Griffin, Buddy Miller and The Milk Carton Kids. To purchase tickets, click [here](#) or contact the Box Office at 202-994-6800 or [lisner@gwu.edu](mailto:lisner@gwu.edu).

## 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.

## BAPTISM

Parents who wish to have their child baptized at the Cathedral should contact the Baptismal Coordinator at 202-347-3215 x555 or [baptism@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:baptism@stmatthewscathedral.org). 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.

## NEWS AND NOTES

**First Friday** – First Friday Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held on **October 7** following the 12:10pm Mass until 5pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, to the left of the sanctuary. All are welcome.

**Little Sisters of the Poor** – The Little Sisters of the Poor will be at St. Matthew's next weekend, **October 8 – 9**, to ask for help with their mission of caring for the elderly poor. The sisters will be at the Cathedral doors after each Mass to accept voluntary gifts of support. Please be generous. Thank you for your kindness to them.

**Columbus Day** – On Columbus Day, Monday, **October 10**, the Cathedral will open at 7:30am and close at 1pm. Masses will be at 8am and 12:10pm, and there will be no confessions. The rectory will be closed.

**Interested in a Parish Pilgrimage to INDIA?** – Msgr. Jameson seeks expressions of interest in a possible 8-10 day parish pilgrimage to India in **April 2017**, to include Mumbai (modern-day Bombay), Agra, and possibly Jaipur, Goa and New Delhi. Parishioners and friends may contact Msgr. Jameson at [rjameson@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:rjameson@stmatthewscathedral.org).

## LECTURAS DE HOY

**H**oy el Señor nos dice claramente que los buenos servidores de Dios saben que no son más que “siervos.” Pese a eso, la idea de saber que para el Señor no somos más que “servidores” tal vez nos parezca un tanto extrema. ¿Quiere el Señor en realidad que nos sintamos ineptos y sin valor alguno? ¡Claro que no! El Padre nos considera tan valiosos que quiere darnos el Reino (Lucas 12, 32).

Jesús contó la parábola de hoy para demostrar que un buen servidor que ama mucho a su patrón hace su trabajo a conciencia y se esmera en atenderlo y demostrarle respeto; no se limita a hacer “lo mínimo”, sino que posterga sus propios planes y renuncia a sus preferencias para complacer a su patrón.

Una humildad como ésta pone en acción el poder de Dios, pero esto sólo es posible si uno le pide al Espíritu Santo que le haga comprender la majestad y la santidad de nuestro Señor. Cuando uno conoce más profundamente a Cristo, se siente transformado y desea entregarse más a él. El amor de Cristo es tan extraordinario que cautiva y enternece nuestro corazón; el Señor conoce todas nuestras faltas y defectos, sin embargo nos ama en forma completa e incondicional; por eso mismo, nosotros tenemos que amarlo a él sin condiciones y servirlo con gratitud y amor, no por temor ni de mala gana.

San Pablo dijo a los corintios: “El amor de Cristo nos apremia, al pensar que si uno murió por todos, todos murieron. Cristo murió por todos para que los que viven ya no vivan para sí mismos, sino para aquel que murió y resucitó por ellos” (2 Corintios 5, 14-15). Si vivimos para Cristo con esta misma convicción, iremos aprendiendo a pensar como el Señor y, como resultado, las oraciones que hagamos y las decisiones que tomemos estarán de acuerdo con su santa voluntad.

*“Jesús, Señor nuestro, tu majestad llena los cielos y la tierra; sin embargo, decidiste humillarte por completo para rescatarme del pecado. Por eso, eres merecedor de todo mi amor y de mi obediencia absoluta. Señor, pongo mi vida entera en tus manos.”*

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## LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

**Domingo 2** Hab 1:2-3; 2:2-4 / 2 Tim 1:6-8,13-14 / Lc 17:5-10

**Lunes 3** Gál 1:6-12 / Lc 10:25-37

**Martes 4** Gál 1:13-24 / Lc 10:38-42

**Miércoles 5** Gál 2:1-2,7-14 / Lc 11:1-4  
*San Francisco de Asís*

**Jueves 6** Gál 3:1-5 / Lc 11:5-13  
*Beato Francis Xavier Seelos*

**Viernes 7** Gál 3:7-14 / Lc 11:15-26  
*San Bruno, Beata María Rosa Durocher*

**Sábado 8** Gál 3:22-29 / Lc 11:27-28  
*Nuestra Señora la Virgen del Rosario*

**Domingo 9** 2 Re 5:14-17 / 2 Tim 2:8-13 / Lc 17:11-19

## INTENCIONES DE MISAS MASS INTENTIONS

October 2 - 9

### Sunday, October 2

5:30pm Vigil (October 1) – Fr. Agustin Mateo-Ayala (living)

7am – Josefina Samundo

10am – Anna Fuhrman (living)

11:30am – Carl V. Delling, Sr.

1pm – Ubaldo Zamudio

5:30pm – All Parishioners

### Monday, October 3

7am – George F. Shevlin, III

8am – Venustiano Canlas

12:10pm – Clotilde Salvador

5:30pm – Perry Hooper, Sr.

### Tuesday, October 4

7am – Sylvie Ramangasoaviana (living)

8am – Lanberto Berganio

12:10pm – Alex Bautista

5:30pm – Thanksgiving

### Wednesday, October 5

7am – Nance Greenfield

8am – Thomas Garrett

12:10pm – Mary C. Smith

5:30pm – Mai Le (living)

### Thursday, October 6

7am – Jeannette Ernestine Dompas

8am – Francisco De León

12:10pm – Camille Pike

### Friday, October 7

7am – Sebastian & Thekla Fernandes

8am – Nance Greenfield

12:10pm – Nestor Bourzas Leoda

### Saturday, October 8

8am – Andres Maciel, Jr.

12:10pm – Lang Huy Ngo

5:30pm – Jesse Baltazar

### Sunday, October 9

7am – All Parishioners

8:30am – Viola Caserta

10am – Jerome Tamul

11:30am – Conrad Sabelino, Jr.

1pm – Daniel S. M. Santos

5:30pm – Pelagia Esplana



*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

### ¡BIENVENIDOS!

*Visitantes de la Catedral, queremos que sepan que son bienvenidos; bien sea que hayan venido de otra parte del país, del otro lado del mundo, o de otra parroquia del área de Washington. Gracias por orar con nosotros. Gracias también por su generosidad, la cual nos ayuda a celebrar nuestras Liturgias de una forma especial y nos permite ofrecer una gran variedad de servicios a personas necesitadas en el área de Washington, DC. ¡Disfrute su visita!*

### Intenciones del Papa Francisco para octubre de 2016

– Por favor, únase en oración por las intenciones del Papa Francisco en este mes de octubre: para que los periodistas, en el ejercicio de su profesión, estén siempre motivados por el respeto a la verdad y un fuerte sentido ético; y para que la Jornada Mundial de las Misiones [el domingo **23 de octubre**] renueve a todas las comunidades cristianas, a la alegría y la responsabilidad de anunciar el Evangelio.

**Primer Viernes** – Primer viernes de Exposición y Adoración del Santísimo Sacramento se celebrará después de la misa 12:10 del mediodía hasta 5:00 de la tarde el viernes **7 de octubre** en la capilla del Santísimo Sacramento, situada a la izquierda del santuario. Todos son bienvenidos a venir y adorar a nuestro Señor.



**Las Hermanas de los Pobres nos Visitan** – Las hermanas de los pobres, visitarán la Catedral este fin de semana, **8 – 9 de octubre** para aceptar donaciones después de todas las misas en las puertas de la Catedral. Agradecerán cualquier ayuda que puedan ofrecerles a ellas.

**Próximamente** – El lunes **10 de octubre**, es el Día de Cristóbal Colón. La Catedral abrirá a las 7:30 de la mañana y cerrará a la 1 de la tarde. Las misas serán a las 8 y 12:10 del mediodía. No habrá confesiones ese día. La rectoría estará cerrada.

**Cena de Otoño para personas sin Hogar** – El Comité de Justicia Social y Servicio Comunitario está auspiciando una cena para nuestros amigos sin hogar el domingo, **23 de octubre** a las 3 de la tarde, puede

llamar a Paulin Leonida al 202-630-0119 o [imapaulina@gmail.com](mailto:imapaulina@gmail.com). Estas son las diferentes maneras para ayudar:

- Preparar el salón, servir y proveer hospitalidad a nuestros invitados;
- Preparar o comprar comida para la cena; o
- Hacer una donación monetaria para el uso de compras de comida y materiales.

¡Estas cenas bianuales son un gran éxito por su ayuda! Esperamos oír de ustedes.



**Grupo de Oración** – El grupo de oración se reúne los martes a la 7 de la tarde en el salón de conferencias del Oeste. El objetivo del grupo es profundizar nuestra fe por medio de las Sagradas Escrituras. El grupo de Oración tendrá charlas programadas a través del año. El Tema es: **“Ser Católico Hoy.”** Estas charlas están basadas en la carta pastoral del **Cardenal Wuerl**. La segunda charla: **En el Sacramento del Bautismo recibimos la identidad permanente y verdadera.** *¿Cómo se refleja “una identidad entre decir y hacer” en nuestras vidas especialmente si estas bautizada?* será el martes **18 de octubre**, en el salón de conferencia del Este. Maggie Gutiérrez será la invitada especial. Para más información llame a Fátima Aybar al 202-347-3215 x541.



### Interesado en una Peregrinación Parroquial a la INDIA?

– Monseñor Jameson busca personas que estén interesadas en una posible peregrinación parroquial a la

India en **abril de 2017**. El viaje sería de unos 8-10 días, a Mumbai (el Bombay moderno de hoy día), Agra y posiblemente Jaipur, Goa y Nueva Delhi. Feligreses y amigos pueden contactar a Monseñor Jameson a [rjameson@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:rjameson@stmatthewscathedral.org).

**Taller en español para Lectores** – Este taller es para instruir a los lectores sobre cómo ser un buen lector. También explicaran el Leccionario y la estructura de la tradición bíblica católica. Este taller está abierto a todos y se llevará a cabo el sábado, **22 de octubre** de 9am – 12 mediodía en la Iglesia St. Bernard / Our Lady of Fatima en Riverdale Park (5700 Saint Bernard Dr.). Una cuota de inscripción de \$5 puede ser pagada en la puerta. Para inscribirse, escribir a [liturgy@adw.org](mailto:liturgy@adw.org) ó llame a la Sra. Maria Hamm 301-853-4594.

ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON



## Foundations for the New Evangelization

*In liturgy, we praise and adore the Father as the source of all the blessings of creation, salvation, and divine adoption....The sacraments communicate to each person a participation in God's life and a growth of love and witness in the church.*  
(USCCA 177)

Join us for an exploration of how we praise God and receive his many blessings through liturgy and the sacraments.

Instructor: Theresa Prymuszewski

**Six consecutive Thursdays:**  
**October 6, 13, 20, 27; Nov. 10 and 17**  
**7:00pm-9:00pm**

Cathedral of St. Matthew  
1725 Rhode Island Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20036

To register contact:  
[Theresa Prymuszewski 202-587-5139](mailto:Theresa.Prymuszewski@stmatthewscathedral.org)  
[tprymuszewski@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:tprymuszewski@stmatthewscathedral.org)

### Foundations



### Liturgy and Sacraments

Cost: \$29

For Catechists: \$20

For more opportunities to grow in your faith visit  
[www.mycatholicfaithdelivered.com/adw](http://www.mycatholicfaithdelivered.com/adw)



# *St. Matthew's Cathedral*

## **Hispanic Heritage Celebration**

You are invited to a day of celebration with traditional food, dress, music, and dance!

Sunday, October 9th, 2016

After the Masses of 8:30am, 10am,  
11:30am & 1:00pm

North Conference Room



# *Catedral de San Mateo*

## **Celebración de la Herencia Hispana**

¡Le invitamos a unirse a nosotros a la celebración de la hispanidad habrá comida típica, trajes tradicionales, música y baile!

Domingo 9 de octubre de 2016

Después de las Misas de 8:30, 10, 11:30 &  
1:00 de la tarde

Salón de Conferencias del Norte

Para colaborar con comida, música y donaciones llame a Fátima Aybar (ext.541) o Norma Canedo (ext. 552) a la rectoría al (202) 347- 3215.

**Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick**  
**A Celebration of Mercy**  
**Sunday, October 16, at 11:30am Mass**

Of the seven sacraments, the Church classifies two of them as the sacraments of healing: Reconciliation (often known as Confession) and Anointing of the Sick. Each of them involves healing the human person; one for our spiritual health and the other for our physical well-being. How these sacraments have been practiced in the life of the Church has differed over time. This brief summary is about the anointing of the sick. Historically, oil was widely used in the ancient world for a variety of life purposes: lighting, cooking, athletic preparation, special marking and especially healing wounds. So, it is not surprising that the New Testament includes reference to the use of oil, once in Mark's gospel and another in a letter of the apostle, James.

In the life of the early church, the common use of oil for healing was given a special blessing by the bishop to call upon God's power for the benefit of the sick. During the early centuries, the application of the blessed oil could be done by any of the baptized faithful, since it was primarily for the healing of physical defects. In later centuries, it began to be associated with the dying to heal the soul before death, especially as it was done concurrent with one's last confession. During these later centuries, this concurrent use of both sacraments led to limiting the sacramental anointing to those who were ordained, in particular, the priest.

All sacraments are for the benefit of the individual, but we are all members of the Body of Christ. So, when one member of the body is afflicted, so is the whole body. And as the physical body makes an effort to assist healing the afflicted part, so also the spiritual body is involved in healing the injured member. To reflect this theology, the Church encourages this sacrament to be administered as much as possible in a public way, even if administered in a hospital or nursing home. So, the sacramental ritual provides for celebrating the anointing as part of a community liturgy, such as Mass, much as we do for baptisms, first communions, and the other sacraments.

**Moreover, the renewed rite now is more inclusive of who can be anointed. The anointing can be administered to: children and adults about to undergo or are recovering from surgery; those experiencing or being treated for a serious physical or mental illness; those who are physically handicapped; and those seriously impaired by old age."**

At St. Matthew's, our communal celebration is being celebrated proximate to the feast of St. Luke who is particularly associated with the sick. This year, the sacrament will be administered at a regular Sunday Mass (11:30am) to more broadly experience the communal nature of the sacrament. **See the reverse side of this for the form to participate in the anointing.**

"If anyone of you is ill, he should send for the elders of the church, and they must anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord and pray over him." (James 5: 14)

Deacon Bart Merella



**Sacrament of Anointing the Sick**  
**Sunday, October 16, at the 11:30am Mass**

**Participation Form**

*“If anyone of you is ill, he should send for the elders of the church and they must anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord and pray over him.” (James 4: 14)*

**Who Can Be Anointed.** Faithful who may receive this sacrament should be: children and adults about to undergo or are recovering from surgery; those experiencing or being treated for a serious physical or mental illness; those who are physically handicapped; and those seriously impaired by old age.

Those who would like to receive this sacrament or know someone who may wish to be contacted about receiving the sacrament, please enter the information below.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please leave this completed form with a hospitality minister (usher) at Mass or at the rectory office; send email to Deacon Clayton Nickel ([deaconnickel@me.com](mailto:deaconnickel@me.com)) with the information.

I encourage all parishioners to join in this communal celebration of this sacrament and encourage as many as possible to receive the special sacramental anointing.

Rev. Msgr. W. Ronald Jameson  
Rector