

TODAY'S READINGS

Zeal for your house will consume me. (John 2:17)
Imagine a church adorned with marble columns, bursting with colors, gold ceilings, marble floors, walls covered with New Testament scenes, a mosaic of Mary and the saints, and a seven-meter high statue of Jesus Christ. This is the Lateran Basilica in Rome.

This building isn't just visually stunning; it has a rich history as well. As the cathedral of the Diocese of Rome, it is considered the pope's church in his capacity as bishop of Rome. The emperor Constantine donated the land for it to Pope Melchiades around a.d. 311, and had a church built there for him. Until the construction of St. Peter's in the sixteenth century, the popes lived in a residence built on the site as well.

Over time, the Lateran Basilica has faced many hardships. It has been sacked, damaged by more than one fire, and nearly destroyed by an earthquake. But even in these challenges, this historic church, which is a symbol for bishops everywhere, can teach us. Like the Lateran, the universal Church is both stunningly beautiful and has faced many challenges. It has been persecuted, and some of its members and leaders have made mistakes that have inflicted grievous wounds on it. Many bishops have handled their responsibilities well; some have not.

None of this should surprise us. The Church is made up of imperfect people, and bishops are no exception. Like us, they face temptation, and so they need support. As our brothers in Christ, they need our prayers, our encouragement, and the witness of our lives.

Try something different today. Write a letter or e-mail to your bishop! Tell him you're praying for him. Rather than asking something of him, just encourage him, and lift him up to the Lord.

"Thank you, Father, for those you have called to be bishops. Bless them and protect them. Together with them, we all pray, 'Lead us not into temptation.'"

Taken from *The Word Among Us*, November 2014, Vol. 33, Number 10: Used with permission.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday 9 Ez 47:1-2,8-9,12 / 1 Cor 3:9-11,16-17 / Jn 2:13-22
The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome

Monday 10 Ti 1:1-9 / Lk 17:1-6
St. Leo the Great

Tuesday 11 Ti 2:1-8,11-14 / Lk 17:7-10
St. Martin of Tours

Wednesday 12 Ti 3:1-7 / Lk 17:11-19
St. Josaphat

Thursday 13 Phlm 7-20 / Lk 17:20-25
St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

Friday 14 Ez 47:1-2,8-9,12 / 1 Cor 3:9-11,16-17 / Jn 2:13-22
Anniversary of the Dedication of the Cathedral Church of St. Matthew the Apostle

Saturday 15 3 Jn 5-8 / Lk 18:1-8
St. Albert the Great

Sunday 16 Prv 31:10-13,19-20,30-31 / 1 Thes 5:1-6 / Mt 25:14-30

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!

FAITH FORMATION

Breaking Open the Word – Next Sunday we will hear in the second reading, "let us not sleep as the rest do, but let us stay alert and sober." (1 Thes 5:6) Join us Wednesday, **November 12** at 7pm in the West Conference Room to share how this and the other readings for next Sunday help us to be alert and sober when faced with darkness. Copies of the readings will be provided. Contact: Nathan at nkrieg@gmail.com

Bible Study on the Book of Revelation – The third session of Fr. Hurley's Bible study on the Book of Revelation will be held Saturday, **November 15** from 10:30 to 11:45am in the East Conference Room, and will focus on the Dragon, the Beasts, and the Lamb. Bring a Bible, and consider staying for our 12:10pm Mass afterward.

Be an RCIA Sponsor! – Are you looking for a way to grow in your faith? Consider being an RCIA sponsor, and share your faith with someone who is discerning full initiation in the Catholic Church. A sponsor is a companion, a representative of the faith community who models how to live the faith in daily life, meets with the person s/he is sponsoring to discuss their faith journey, prays for that person, and participates in the stages and rituals of the RCIA process. To learn more, contact Theresa Prymuszewski at 202-587-5139 or tprymuszewski@stmatthewscathedral.org

PARISH CALENDAR

November 9 – 16

Sunday 9—A second collection for Cathedral maintenance is taken at all Masses.

The Columbia Recorder Ensemble sings at the 10am and 11:30am Masses.

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

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

Monday 10—The Liturgy Committee meets at 6:45pm in the East Conference Room.

Tuesday 11—Veterans Day, a federal holiday. Masses are celebrated at 8am and 12:10pm with no Confessions. The parish offices are closed.

Wednesday 12—Breaking Open the Word meets at 7pm in the West Conference Rm.

Thursday 13—Legión de María se reúne a las 6:30 de la tarde en el salón de conferencias del Este.

Friday 14—The Anniversary of the Dedication of the Cathedral Church of St. Matthew the Apostle is celebrated as a solemnity at all Masses.

Saturday 15—Fr. Hurley's Bible study on the Book of Revelation is held at 10:30am in the East Conference Room.

Sunday 16—Las clases de Catequesis, Catecumenado y Catequesis Familiar continúan a las 11:00 de la mañana.

A blessing of engaged couples is given at the 11:30am Mass.

YOUNG ADULTS

DCCatholic Fall Theology on Tap: "Things to Know by 30" - Tuesdays, beginning November 11 - 6 to 7pm (happy hour) / 7 to 8pm (talk) - Buffalo Billiards (1330 19th Street NW / Dupont Circle)

C†YA at the Northwest Center - November 18 - 6 to 8pm - Northwest Center (2702 Ontario Road NW / Columbia Heights) - The Northwest Center provides support and comprehensive care that enables women to deliver and care for healthy babies. Come and help with their Christmas card mailing. Fyi, items on the Center's wish list: diapers, formula, baby wipes, and Pack 'n Plays. Sign-up: Natalie at natalie.committee@gmail.com

C†YA / STAY for Happy Hour - Friday, November 21 - 6 to 9pm - The Madhatter (1319 Connecticut Avenue / Dupont Circle) - Bring friends or coworkers or come on your own to meet other young Catholics at the ever-popular joint happy hour with St. Thomas Apostle Young Adults (STAY). Contact: Sarah at zick.sarah@gmail.com

STEWARDSHIP

Be Sure to Read Your Letter from Msgr. Jameson –

This week, you will receive in the mail a letter containing information regarding the Parish Offertory Program and current levels of giving by our parishioners. Please carefully study the Step Chart and note the financial giving recommendations, which are categorized by personal income levels so as to be fair to all.

At next weekend's Masses you will receive a commitment card and will be asked to indicate your weekly commitment. Regardless of whether you give monthly, quarterly, or otherwise, please indicate the amount that your gifts represent on a weekly basis. If you have not used envelopes, checks or Faith Direct in the past, please begin to do so. It is very important for us to know how many members of our parish are actively involved in offering their financial support.

Please make a conscious effort to examine your spending priorities, see where our parish is currently placed within them, and then adjust your priorities as you deem necessary based on our obligation to support the work of the Lord. Thank you for your cooperation.



The Christian vocation is essentially a call to be a disciple of Jesus.

Stewardship is part of being a disciple. Christians are called to be good stewards of the personal vocations they receive. The U.S. Catholic bishops issued an apostolic letter entitled *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*. Over the next few weeks, the bulletin will include Stewardship Thoughts from the 10th anniversary edition of *A Disciple's Response* to

encourage reflection on stewardship and the ways we can share our time, treasure and talent.



Stewardship Thought for the Week:

"Who is a Christian steward? One who receives God's gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them in justice and love with others, and returns them with increase to the Lord." (*Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*; USCCB November 2002; page 9) (Photos from last weekend's Ministry Fair)



NOVEMBER NOTES

Always God's Children – Always God's Children, the Cathedral parish's ministry to gay and lesbian Catholics and their families and friends, will meet on Sunday, **November 9** at 3:30pm in the West Conference Room.

Daytime Volunteers Needed – Many hands are needed in the Rectory on Thursday, **November 13** to help with several mailing projects between 8:30am and 4pm. If you can come for an hour or two, please send an email to Reply@stmatthewscathedral.org. Thank you!

Blessing of Engaged Couples – On Sunday, **November 16**, Msgr. Jameson and other parish clergy will confer a blessing of engaged couples—those couples preparing for marriage here at the Cathedral and those being prepared here for marriage elsewhere—at the 11:30am Mass. After the homily, the couples will be invited into the sanctuary and will return to their seats after the blessing. Please email us at Reply@stmatthewscathedral.org if you plan to attend.

Eucharistic Adoration – All are invited to the parish's monthly Eucharistic Holy Hour on Monday, **November 17** from 6 to 7pm. Deacon Gabriel Torretta, OP will preside and give a short reflection. Fr. Rafael will be available for confessions in English and Spanish during the hour.

Thanksgiving Day Mass – Join us for a bilingual (English and Spanish) Mass on Thanksgiving Day, **November 27** at 10am. "Thanksgiving characterizes the prayer of the Church," the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches, "which, in celebrating the Eucharist, reveals and becomes more fully what she is." Together, let us give thanks to God, the Giver of all gifts, for His many blessings.

November Remembrance – This month we remember our deceased loved ones in a special way. In the pews are donation envelopes on which you may write the names of deceased relatives and friends, to be given to the sacristan or placed in the collection basket. Your loved ones will be remembered at Mass each day of the month. The envelopes will be placed on the altar in the Wedding Chapel.

Thank You from the Little Sisters of the Poor – "The love and support that you gave the Little Sisters of the Poor was a sign of your genuine Charity. The collection amounted to \$5,012.18. Your gifts are truly a sign of God's loving and caring Providence, which will help us provide the best possible care for many elderly in need who come to make their Homes with us. Thank you all!!! Our Residents join with us in promising you our daily prayers for all your many intentions. God bless each and every one of you!"



Former editor-in-chief of America, Fr. Drew Christiansen, SJ, opened our Fall Lecture Series.



The Shola Cantorum at our All Souls' Day Concert of Remembrance, also featuring Cathedral Organist Paul Hardy



FAITH IN ACTION

Sponsors Needed for Christmas Gift Drive – Last year through our Christmas Adopt-A-Family program we provided gifts for 56 families in our community, 80 guests from our Homeless Ministry, and the residents of four homes of the L'Arche Community. With your help we can repeat that success! If your company, group of friends, or family is interested in sponsoring a family in need, please contact Fr. Rafael or Norma Canedo at 202-347-3215 or socialjustice@stmatthewscathedral.org.

SOME Trot for Hunger – A St. Matthew's team will start Thanksgiving Day by raising funds for So Others Might Eat (SOME) in the 13th annual Trot for Hunger! Our goal this year is to raise \$750. To join the team, visit www.some.org, choose "Trot for Hunger" under Events, then "Cathedral of St. Matthew" under Join Team. You also may donate through the same link. Team leader Leah Rochelle will contact registrants with race details by November 25. Join us for the 10am Mass after the race! Contact: Leah at lsrochelle@gmail.com

Adopt-a-Family: Thanksgiving Day Drive – We are collecting monetary donations and \$25 Safeway gift cards for families in need this Thanksgiving. These can be sent to or dropped-off at the rectory through Wednesday, **November 12**. Please make checks payable to St. Matthew's Cathedral with "Adopt-a-Family Thanksgiving" on the memo line. Thank you for your generosity and support! For more information, contact Pedro Carroll at carrollpedro@mac.com or call the rectory at 202-347-3215.

NOTICIAS DE LA PARROQUIA

Día de los Veteranos – El martes **11 de noviembre** Día de los Veteranos fiesta federal. La Catedral abrirá a las 7:30 de la mañana y cerrará a la 1:00 de la tarde. Las misas serán a las 8:00 y 12:10 del mediodía. No habrá confesiones ese día. La rectoría estará cerrada.

Asegúrense de leer la carta de Monseñor

Jameson – Esta semana recibirán en el correo



una carta que contiene información acerca del programa de colecta de la parroquia y los niveles actuales de dar, de nuestros feligreses. Por favor, estudien detenidamente los escalones del diagrama y vean las recomendaciones financieras de dar, que están categorizadas de acuerdo a los ingresos personales para ser justos con todos.

El próximo fin de semana, durante la misa recibirán una tarjeta de compromiso y se les pedirá que indiquen su compromiso semanal. No importa si usted hace donaciones mensuales, trimestrales, etc. Por favor indique la suma que sus donaciones representan por semana. Si no ha utilizado sobres o cheques o Fe Directo en el pasado, por favor empiecen a hacerlo. Es muy importante para nosotros el saber cuántos de nuestros feligreses participan activamente en la colecta con apoyo financiero.

Por favor, hagan un esfuerzo consciente y examinen sus prioridades de gastos como sea necesario, tomando en cuenta nuestra obligación de apoyar el trabajo del Señor. Gracias por su cooperación.

Adopte-una-Familia: Colecta del Día de Acción de Gracias – Se acerca el Día de Acción de Gracias y estamos recogiendo donaciones para familias en necesidad. Puede ayudar con donaciones monetarias y con tarjetas de regalo de \$25 para Safeway. Las donaciones pueden ser enviadas por correo o las pueden dejar en la rectoría hasta el miércoles, **12 de noviembre**. Por favor que los cheques sean escritos a “St. Matthew’s Cathedral”, indicando en la línea de nota que la donación es para “*Adopt-a-Family Thanksgiving*”. ¡Muchas gracias por su generosidad y apoyo! Para más información, póngase en contacto con Pedro Carroll al carrollpedro@mac.com o llame a la rectoría al 202-347-3215.

Misa del Día de Acción de Gracias – Únase a la celebración de la Misa de Acción de Gracias, que será bilingüe, el día **27 de noviembre** a las 10:00 de la mañana. Monseñor Jameson será el celebrante y

predicador con nuestros padres de la parroquia concelebrando “La Acción de Gracias caracteriza la oración de la Iglesia”, nos dice el Catecismo, “la cual, cuando se celebra la Eucaristía, revela y expresa en plenitud lo que es”. Juntos demos gracias a Dios, el dador de todo bien, por las muchas bendiciones que ha derramado sobre nosotros a través del año.

(SOME) Carrera por el Hambre – El equipo de San Mateo empezará su Día de Acción de Gracias de este año recaudando fondos para So Other Might Eat (SOME) en el treceavo año de la carrera por el Hambre. SOME provee comida, ropa, servicios médicos y de la salud mental y otros servicios sociales para nuestras hermanas y hermanos en necesidad. Nuestra meta de este año será recaudar \$750. Si quisieras formar parte de nuestro equipo, visite www.some.org; haga clic a “Events” y luego escoja “Trot for Hunger.” Haga clic a “Join Team.” Luego escribe “Cathedral of St. Matthew” y siga las instrucciones. No es necesario que corra o camine si usted no puede asistir, también puede apoyar al equipo haciendo una donación monetaria usando la misma página. Leah Rochelle se pondrá en contacto con los participantes registrados el 25 de noviembre con detalles. Para más información, puede mandar un correo electrónico a Leah al lsrochelle@gmail.com. ¡Únase a nosotros a la Misa de 10:00 de la mañana, después de acabar la carrera!

Sobres para las Ánimas – Los católicos, recordamos a nuestros seres difuntos de una forma especial en el mes de noviembre. Cada día durante el mes de noviembre se ofrecerá una misa especial por todos los difuntos. Sobres especiales para poner los nombres de sus seres queridos para que sean recordados en nuestra misa especial durante el mes de noviembre, los encontrarán en los bancos de la Catedral. Estos sobres se pondrán en el altar de la Capilla Nupcial.

Programa Navideño de Adopte-Una-Familia – La Catedral se está preparando para nuestro programa navideño de Adopte-Una-Familia. El año pasado pudimos proveer regalos para 56 familias de la comunidad, 80 invitados de nuestro Ministerio para las Personas sin Hogar y se recogieron regalos para miembros de los hogares de la Comunidad de L’Arche. Si su compañía, grupo de amigos o familia están interesados en “adoptar” a una familia en necesidad, por favor póngase en contacto con el padre Rafael o Norma Canedo al 202-347-3215 o socialjustice@stmatthewscathedral.org.

LECTURAS DE HOY

En el año 573 a.C., el templo del Rey Salomón había quedado completamente destruido y los israelitas exiliados vivían en constante y completa aflicción, pero Dios les envió al profeta Ezequiel con un mensaje de esperanza: Habría un nuevo templo, mejor que el antiguo, del cual fluirían aguas que serían portadoras de vida y salud. Dios le estaba diciendo a su pueblo que no se quedara paralizado, sumido en la desesperanza de la precaria situación del momento, sino que elevara la mirada hacia el cielo y confiara en las promesas de su Padre.

Los cristianos sabemos que el nuevo templo anunciado por Dios se cumplió a cabalidad en Jesucristo, Nuestro Señor, porque su propio cuerpo era el “templo” que fue destruido y luego “levantado” por el poder de Dios (Juan 2, 19). Ahora, los miembros del Cuerpo de Cristo, la Iglesia, somos piedras vivas en la construcción del templo santo (1 Pedro 2, 5). Los bautizados en Cristo nos hemos sumergido en el río de la vida que fluye del trono de Dios y por eso debemos ser canales de gracia, salud y vida para todo el mundo.

Esto es lo que recordamos hoy al celebrar la Dedicación de la Basílica de Letrán, en Roma, la catedral pontificia que es la sede del Obispo de Roma (el Papa) y la “Madre y Cabeza” de todas las iglesias del mundo. Pero esta basílica no señala solamente un histórico templo católico, sino que es símbolo de toda la Iglesia viva, dinámica, vibrante y de la que brota el torrente del agua de la vida y del amor divino. El Señor nos anima a todos a que bebamos de esta agua y nos sumerjamos en ella. ¡Vamos, sumerjémonos en las aguas profundas y transformadoras del amor y la gracia de Dios y nademos en ellas, y así veremos la renovación de la Iglesia y el mundo!

“Dios mío, me sumerjo en el río de agua viva que fluye de tu templo sagrado, que es Jesucristo, mi Dios y Salvador. Enséñame a recibir todo lo que tienes para mí, Señor, para que así yo sea un canal por el que fluya tu vida y tu misericordia.”

Escogida con el permiso de *La Palabra Entre Nosotros*, Vol. 33, Número 10: noviembre 2014.

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Domingo 9 Ez 47:1-2,8-9,12 / 1 Cor 3:9-11,16-17 / Jn 2:13-22

La Dedicación de la Basílica de Letrán

Lunes 10 Ti 1:1-9 / Lc 17:1-6

San León Magno

Martes 11 Ti 2:1-8,11-14 / Lc 17:7-10

San Martín de Tours

Miércoles 12 Ti 3:1-7 / Lc 17:11-19

San Josafat

Jueves 13 Flm 7-20 / Lc 17:20-25

Santa Francisca Javier Cabrini

Viernes 14 Ez 47:1-2,8-9,12 / 1 Cor 3:9-11,16-17 / Jn 2:13-22

Aniversario de la Dedicación de la Iglesia Catedral de San Mateo apóstol

Sábado 15 3 Jn 5-8 / Lc 18:1-8

San Alberto Magno

Domingo 16 Pro 31:10-13,19-20,30-31 / 1 Tes 5:1-6 / Mt 25:14-30

MASS INTENTIONS

November 9 - 16

Sunday, November 9

5:30pm (November 8 vigil) – Survivors of the Ebola Illness (living)

7am – All Souls

8:30am – All Parishioners

10am – Orestes Hocson (living)

11:30am – Efreem Zimbalist, Jr.

1pm – Maria Velez Posada

5:30pm – Bridie Doherty (living)

Monday, November 10

7am – Maria M. Dos Santos

8am – All Souls

12:10pm – Cathy Smith

5:30pm – Andres G. Agcaoli

Tuesday, November 11

8am – All Souls

12:10pm – Thanksgiving

Wednesday, November 12

7am – All Souls

8am – Gale Kolosek

12:10pm – Dario Rianzares

5:30pm – Ernestina B. Agcaoli

Thursday, November 13

7am – Dennis Roe

8am – All Souls

12:10pm – Jose Antonio Santana

5:30pm – Rory Kiernan

Friday, November 14

7am – Victor Gosiengfiao

8am – Jacinto Mendez

12:10pm – All Souls

5:30pm – Nicole Meister

Saturday, November 15

8am – Isabela Arbulo (living)

12:10pm – Ana Springer

5:30pm – All Souls

Sunday, November 16

7am – All Souls

8:30am – Ricardo Urribarri

10am – Anthony & Rosetta Petruzzi

11:30am – All Parishioners

1pm – Joel A. Coleman

5:30pm – Ronald Steffenser





St. Matthew's Cathedral Adopt-A-Family Program Christmas 2014



The Social Justice Committee is once again sponsoring the Adopt-A-Family program to provide assistance to low-income families in our parish community. The goal is to help meet their basic needs by providing grocery gift cards, household items, clothing and coats, toys for the children, and other gifts of necessity. Last year, we provided gifts for 56 families, over 80 guests from our Homeless Ministry Program, and homes from the L'Arche Community. This year, we are also including children from DC General Shelter's Playtime Project.

You can help by picking up gift tags with specific gift requests or making a monetary contribution during the Masses beginning in November:

- 1) To participate in the **Giving Tree**, choose as many gift tags as you like from the table at the main entrance of the Cathedral after Mass, the weekends of **November 8 & 9, November 15 & 16, November 22 & 23, November 29 & November 30, and December 6 & 7**. Please purchase the specific item(s) and return the gift(s) wrapped.

Please do not take a card unless you know you will be able to purchase the gift(s) and bring them to the Cathedral on time. Please notify the coordinator if you picked up a card, but are suddenly unable to purchase the gift listed on it. Thank you.

- 2) You can make a **financial contribution** of any amount. Checks are welcome! Please write checks to St. Matthew's Cathedral (add "Adopt-A-Family Christmas" in the note line) and put your donation in an envelope clearly marked **Adopt-A-Family**. Envelopes are available at the main entrance of the Cathedral.

You can drop-off the envelopes and gifts with the volunteers at the main entrance after Mass during the weekends listed above. Your financial contribution can also be sent or turned into the Rectory.

We would like to receive donations by **December 7** to allow time for shopping before Christmas. Any donations that we receive above what is needed for Christmas, will be used to assist the families with grocery gift cards and other emergency assistance during the year.

For more information, please contact Pam Quinn at pquinn505@aol.com.

You may also call the rectory at (202) 347-3215.

Thank you for your generosity!



Catedral de San Mateo Apóstol Programa de Adopte-una-Familia Navidad 2014



El comité de Justicia Social de nuevo está organizando el programa de Adopte-Una-Familia para proveer ayuda a familias de nuestra parroquia que se encuentran en necesidad. La meta es ayudar con necesidades básicas al regalar tarjetas de regalo para alimentos, artículos para la casa, ropa y abrigos, juguetes para los niños y otros regalos esenciales. El año pasado, proveímos regalos para 56 familias, más de 80 visitantes de nuestro Programa para Personas Sin Hogar y los hogares de la Comunidad de L'Arche. Este año, incluiremos a niños del Proyecto *Playtime* del Albergue de DC General.

Para ayudar, usted puede recoger etiquetas de regalo con la descripción de un regalo específico o hacer donaciones monetarias durante las misas empezando en noviembre:

- 1) Para apoyar a las familias como parte del **Árbol de Regalos**, escoja una o más etiquetas de la mesa en la entrada central de la Catedral después de la misa los fines de semana en **noviembre 8 & 9, noviembre 15 & 16, noviembre 22 & 23, noviembre 29 & noviembre 30 y diciembre 6 & 7**. Por favor compre los regalos específicos y tráigalos envueltos.

Por favor no recoja una etiqueta si usted no puede comprar el regalo y traerlo a la Catedral a tiempo. Por favor de notificar a la coordinadora si recogió una etiqueta, pero ya no puede comprar el regalo. Muchas gracias por su consideración.

- 2) También puede dar una **contribución monetaria** de cualquier cantidad. Aceptamos cheques y dinero en efectivo. Favor de escribir los cheques a “*St. Matthew’s Cathedral*” (por favor añada “*Adopt-A-Family Christmas*” en la línea de nota) y ponga su donación en un sobre marcado **Adopt-A-Family**. Los sobres para sus donaciones también se encuentran en la entrada de la Catedral.

Puede dejar los sobres y regalos con los voluntarios en la entrada central después de la misa durante los fines de semana mencionados arriba. También puede mandar o entregar su contribución directamente a la rectoría.

Les pedimos que entreguen sus contribuciones (monetarias y regalos) hasta el **7 de diciembre** para que podamos comprar lo que nos falte. Cualquier donación que sobra, será para apoyar las familias con tarjetas de regalos para alimentos y otra asistencia de emergencia durante el año.

Para más información, por favor póngase en contacto con Pam Quinn a pquinn505@aol.com. También puede llamar a la rectoría al (202) 347-3215.

¡Muchas gracias por su generosidad!



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.

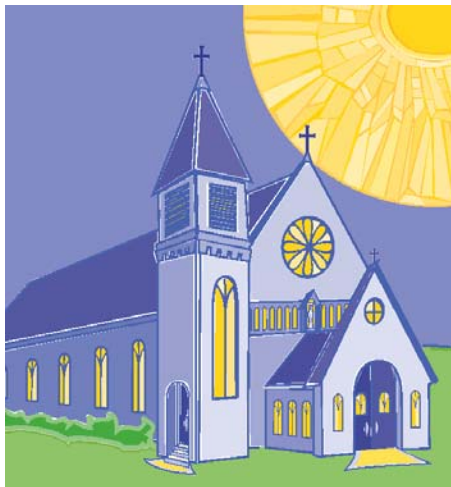
Sign up using the enrollment form on the other side or go online to www.faithdirect.net and use our parish code **DC284** to enroll today!

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: _____

Church Envelope #: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

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

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

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

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

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

Credit/Debit Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

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

Experiences of Marriage and Family

Pope Francis noted this in a recent homily: “Families are the first place in which we are formed as persons and, at the same time, the ‘bricks’ for the building up of society.”

The Extraordinary Synod of Bishops just concluded its first session concerning issues affecting marriage and the family. Much public comment has been made about what the synod bishops have been discussing. *America*, a Catholic magazine published by the Jesuits, recently included a special section containing a series of six personal reflections about the **beauty** and **messiness** of marriage and family. *America* has given us permission to reprint these reflections in our parish bulletin. This is the first of those personal reflections.

Community Building

By Rev. Alexander M. Santora

When I first became pastor of Our Lady of Grace parish in Hoboken, N.J., I saw maybe two babies in attendance at Masses each weekend. Today there is baby-carriage gridlock on Sunday morning. In the last five years, an influx of young families in this gentrified, mile-square town of 50,000 residents has meant more young children at Mass. The city’s businesses and housing stock have become family-friendly, and the church is working to do so as well. Another parish in town has built a family chapel in the church basement. Parents are bringing their children to church looking for an environment that welcomes them and provides them with age-appropriate programs.

Exploring the beliefs and expectations of young families is an interesting—and necessary—venture. Many couples are rediscovering their faith. Some come because they need paperwork to become godparents or confirmation sponsors and then keep coming back.

Many young married couples have taken to heart the importance of family and are excited about having and raising children (two or three, on average). Yet beyond acknowledging that bringing life into the world is part of the divine marriage plan, many have tuned out the ongoing debates about all kinds of sexual morality. And that is sad, because there is much good in the church’s teachings. But the stridency of some castigating Catholics has resulted in many young Catholics choosing to find their own way. After 32 years as a priest, I can count on one hand the number of engaged couples I have met who were living apart before marriage. Yet, most of them attend Mass fairly regularly before the wedding. Afterward is another story.

For many young couples, issues like birth control, single motherhood and same-sex unions are negotiated by conscience, without much thought of the magisterium. Yet they return to Mass, seeking something to feed their spirit and to help them arrive at ethical decisions. They seek preaching that is relevant and savor references to the sorts of conundrums in which they find themselves.

Pope Francis' message resonates with young families. They have sighed with relief that a pope speaks their language. Young adults and parents see justice as paramount, and the old moral shibboleths do not work for them. Support for same-sex unions has grown. Parents feel that if their child were to identify as gay or lesbian, they would want a safe and pleasant life for him or her, filled with opportunity.

Most parents revel in their roles as parents and want their children to be part of a larger community. Often, I invite the children at Mass to gather around the altar as we recite the Our Father. Our parish includes a diverse group of parishioners. The children hold hands and, although they do not yet sense it, the prayer unites those living in Section 8 housing and those living in \$1.5 million brownstones. They sometimes smile at each other as they return to their pews. Our hope is that the community building will continue after they leave the church building.

Hope is another thing families seek from a parish community. Families contribute widely to the Advent Giving Tree to help the poor, the elderly, military families and children. They generously donate to the annual Hoboken Shelter collection. They bring food, clothes and baby items for the pro-life advocacy center. They want to make a difference and to teach their children that giving is better than receiving.

And yet, on a sunny Sunday, more people can be found enjoying brunch al fresco on the sidewalks of Hoboken than sitting in the pews. How might we go about welcoming people back inside? I have observed that when families have a good experience at Mass, they tell their friends, and that personal connection and conversation can be the most powerful form of evangelization. How can parish leaders help to create that experience? Call people by name. Pay attention to the children at Mass. Inquire with care about the particulars of parishioners' lives. Help to create a friendly, faithful environment that families want to be a part of.

Rev. Alexander M. Santora is the weekly Faith Matters columnist for The Jersey Journal, a New Jersey daily newspaper, and a recipient of a 2014 Religion Newswriters Association Award.