

## TODAY'S READINGS

**T**he one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it. (Philippians 1:6)

Every winter, the Harbin International Ice and Snow Sculpture Festival takes place in China's Heilongjiang province. Artists take blocks of ice from the nearby Songhua River and carve them into buildings, creating a magnificent frozen city. When everything is finished, the ice city is filled with lights, and tourists come from all over to marvel at it.

In today's second reading, Paul tells us that God is a sculptor. But instead of carving ice, God is shaping us. His goal is to make us into shining witnesses to his love and his grace. Paul goes on to say that he is very confident that God will finish what he has started. Paul's statement leaves us with two questions: first, what is the "good work" that God has done? And second, why is Paul so confident this work will be completed?

The "work" that God has done in us is our salvation. It's the work of his Spirit in shaping us to become more and more like Christ. This is why we celebrate Christmas in the first place: God sent his Son into the world not to condemn us but to save us (John 3:17)!

Paul is confident because he knows that this is primarily God's work, not our own—and God always finishes what he starts! At the Last Supper, Jesus said, "It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you" (John 15:16). Just as he chose Mary and Joseph, Peter and Paul, God has chosen each of us and called us to salvation. We belong to him!

Now, God chooses everyone, but not everyone responds to his call. Yes, so much is his work, but we do have a part to play. So make it a point to choose Christ today. Know that he will give you all the grace you need to become like him. He has chosen you; he has begun sculpting you; he won't rest until you shine with his light and his love!

*"Jesus, I am yours! Come and continue your work in my heart."*

Taken from *The Word Among Us*, Advent 2015, Vol. 35, Number 1: Used with permission.

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS

**Sunday 6** Bar 5:1-9 / Phil 1:4-6,8-11 / Lk 3:1-6  
*Second Sunday of Advent*

**Monday 7** Is 35:1-10 / Lk 5:17-26  
*St. Ambrose*

**Tuesday 8** Gn 3:9-15,20 / Eph 1:3-6,11-12 / Lk 1:26-38  
*The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

**Wednesday 9** Is 40:25-31 / Mt 11:28-30  
*St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoazin*

**Thursday 10** Is 41:13-20 / Mt 11:11-15

**Friday 11** Is 48:17-19 / Mt 11:16-19  
*St. Damasus I*

**Saturday 12** Zec 2:14-17 / Lk 1:26-38  
*Our Lady of Guadalupe*

**Sunday 13** Zep 3:14-18 / Phil 4:4-7 / Lk 3:10-18  
*Third Sunday of Advent*

## PARISH CALENDAR

December 6 - 13

### Sunday 6—Second Sunday of Advent

A second collection for Cathedral maintenance is taken at all Masses. Hospitality receptions are held in the North Conference Room following all Masses except the 7am and 5:30pm Masses, with gifts from the Holy Land available for purchase.

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

**Monday 7**—The Parish Council meets at 6:45pm in the East Conference Room.

**Tuesday 8—Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**, a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses are at 7am, 8am, 11am, 12:10pm, 5:30pm and 7pm (in Spanish).

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

**Sunday 13**—A second collection to benefit the Retirement for Religious is taken at all Masses.

Celebración de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe durante la misa de español y refrescos después, en el salón de conferencias del Oeste.

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

*Lessons and Carols* is presented in the Cathedral at 7:30pm, followed by a sing-along in the Great Hall.

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

St. Matthew's offers boxed sets of Christmas cards featuring St.



Matthew's Crèche, and Christmas ornaments. You may purchase items in the Rectory or by contacting us at 202-347-3215 x517 or [gharrington@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:gharrington@stmatthewscathedral.org). Visa, MasterCard, and Discover are accepted.

## ADVENT CONFESSIONS

### Come Home for Christmas



**Advent Communal  
Penance Service  
Tuesday  
December 15  
12:10pm**

More than 15 priests from around the Archdiocese will be available for confessions in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, German, French, Kiswahili and American Sign

#### Other Opportunities for Advent Confessions –

During the third week of Advent, on **December 14 – 18** (except **December 15**; see above) and the fourth week of Advent, on **December 21 – 24**, two priests will be available in the Cathedral from 11am to Noon to hear confessions. Take advantage of this opportunity to prepare your heart to receive Christ! As Pope Francis reminds us, “mercy will always be greater than any sin, and no one can place limits on the love of God who is ever ready to forgive” ([Misericordiae Vultus, 3](#)).

## OTHER ADVENT LITURGIES

**Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception** – Tuesday, **December 8**, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holy Day of Obligation, with Masses at 7am, 8am, 11am, 12:10, 5:30pm and 7pm (Spanish). On **December 7**, Cardinal Wuerl will celebrate the 5:30pm Vigil Mass at which the Holy Doors will be opened in celebration of the Jubilee Year of Mercy proclaimed by Pope Francis (see next page). Join us for this feast so fittingly celebrated during Advent.

**Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe** – St. Matthew’s will celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe (which falls on December 12) on Sunday, **December 13** at the 1pm Spanish Mass, followed by refreshments and music in the West Conference Room. All are welcome.

**Eucharistic Adoration** – All are invited to our monthly Eucharistic Holy Hour on Monday, **December 21** from 6 to 7pm. Deacon Garcia will preside and give a short reflection. Fr. Barbieri will be available for confessions in English and Spanish during the hour.

## NEWS & NOTES

**Thank you from the Little Sisters of the Poor** – The Little Sisters of the Poor from the Jeanne Jugan Residence in Washington, DC, sent this note of thanks for your generosity when they visited on October 11: *The love and support that you gave the Little Sisters of the Poor was a sign of your genuine Charity. The collection amounted to \$7,262.28. 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 Home 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.*

**Always God’s Children** – Always God’s Children, the cathedral’s ministry to gay and lesbian persons and their families and friends, will meet Sunday, **December 13** at 3:30pm, in the East Conference Room.

**Rectory Hours** – The rectory hours from Saturday, **December 19** through Monday, **December 28**, are as follows:

Saturday 19 – 10am to 2pm  
 Sunday 20 – 10:30am to 3pm  
 Monday 21 – Wednesday 23 – 9am to 4:30pm  
 Christmas Eve, Thursday 24 – 9am to 2pm  
 Christmas Day, Friday 25 – Sunday 27 – Closed  
 Monday 28 – 9am to 4:30pm

**Christmas Flowers** – Each year every effort is made to decorate the Cathedral for Christmas in a way that truly reflects the noble simplicity of that holy season. Your generous support is needed again. You may mail your Christmas flower offering to the rectory, drop it in the offertory, or donate online or via Faith Direct. Many requests are made this time of you, so please be assured of our gratitude for all gifts.

**Christmas Offering** – During Advent, we reflect upon the many blessings of the Lord, including those graces experienced at St. Matthew’s. Your generous response enables the building up the Kingdom of God in our parish and community. You may mail your Christmas offering to the rectory, drop it in the offertory, or give via Faith Direct or online at [www.stmatthews.cathedral.org](http://www.stmatthews.cathedral.org). (Choose *Make a Gift* on the front page, then *Donate* under *Make a One-Time Gift*. After typing address and card information, click *Review Donation* and *Continue*. Choose *Comments*, and in the window type “Christmas.”). We truly appreciate your generosity and pray for many blessings for you and your loved ones this Christmas.

## FAITH FORMATION

For more information or to follow up on items below, contact Theresa Prymuszewski, Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation, at 202-587-5139 or [tprymuszewski@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:tprymuszewski@stmatthewscathedral.org).

**RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)** – RCIA is an ongoing process for adults who would like to explore our Catholic faith. Newcomers are welcome! RCIA meets on Wednesdays, 7–9pm, in the North Conference Room.

**RCIA Call for Sponsors** – We are blessed with a growing number of Inquirers who need sponsors to accompany them as they seek Jesus and explore our Catholic Faith. Would you like to explore being a sponsor?

**Sunday Children's Faith Formation** – Classes meet Sunday **December 6**, 9:45am – 11am at St. Matthew's Education Center.

**Spiritual Direction** – St. Matthew's provides and refers interested persons to qualified spiritual directors.

**Armory Men's Group** – All men are invited to join the Armory Men's group to watch and discuss "**Priest, Prophet, King**," a study program by Bishop Robert Barron. The next meeting is Monday, **December 7** at 7pm in the West Conference Room.

**Jubilee Year of Mercy App** – You are invited to install the free app *365 Days to Mercy* from Our Sunday Visitor for resources for the Holy Year of Mercy. Please call Theresa if you need assistance.

Check our parish website for links to online faith formation resources, including [Cardinal Dolan's new ebook](#).



**Christmas Decorating** – On Wednesday evening, **December 23**, after the 5:30pm

Mass, we will decorate the Cathedral for Christmas. We need volunteers to unwrap, prepare and place poinsettias, put lights on the trees, and assemble the crèche. To volunteer, contact Pam Erwin at 202-347-3215 X 537 or [perwin@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:perwin@stmatthewscathedral.org).

## JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

**Opening of the Holy Doors for the Jubilee Year – Cardinal Wuerl** will celebrate the 5:30pm Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on Monday, **December 7**, at which the Holy Doors will be opened in celebration of the Jubilee Year of Mercy proclaimed by Pope Francis in *Misericordiae vultus* (April 11, 2015).



For a fascinating explanation of the meaning of the official logo of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, visit <http://www.im.va/content/qdm/en/giubileo/logo.html>.

**Encountering God's Mercy** – Pope Francis has called for a Jubilee Year of Mercy "dedicated to living out in our daily lives the mercy which the Father constantly extends to all of us" (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 25). The Year of Mercy starts on **December 8**. This Holy Year will be a special time for all of us to reflect on God's love for us and how we encounter mercy: where we need mercy in our lives, how we can seek out and receive mercy, and ways we can share mercy with others. Learn more about how you can encounter God's mercy this year at [mercy.adw.org](http://mercy.adw.org).

**Walking with Mary to Open the Year of Mercy** – All are invited to the opening celebration of the Year of Mercy on Saturday, **December 12**, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception featuring Confessions from 1 to 2pm, a bilingual Mass with Bishop Dorsonville at 2:30pm, and a procession carrying the images of the Virgin of Guadalupe at 12 Noon from Shrine of the Sacred Heart and Holy Name Church. For more information, visit [www.adw.org/guadalupe](http://www.adw.org/guadalupe).

## OUTREACH

**Reminder: Gifts for Christmas Drive** – If you have taken a gift tag, please be sure to bring your new, wrapped, and labeled gift to Mass today. To drop off your gift this week, please take it to the rectory by 8pm on Tuesday, **December 8**. If you have questions or are no longer able to purchase your gift, please contact Pam Quinn at [pquinn505@aol.com](mailto:pquinn505@aol.com), or call Norma Canedo or Fr. Barbieri at the rectory office at 202-347-3215. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

**Christmas Dinners for Those in Need** – The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception will provide meals for hundreds of poor, homeless, elderly on Christmas Day. If you know of anyone who would like a Christmas dinner delivered to their home on Christmas Day, you may contact Norma Canedo at 202-347-3215 or [ncanedo@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:ncanedo@stmatthewscathedral.org) by **December 13** to provide the person's name, address, and telephone number. To volunteer at the dinner, visit [www.nationalshrine.com/christmasdinner](http://www.nationalshrine.com/christmasdinner).

## LECTURAS DE HOY

San Lucas Evangelista quería que su narración fuera lo más interesante posible para captar la atención y el interés de sus lectores; por eso adornó sus relatos con muchos detalles históricos. Tiberíades, Poncio Pilato, Herodes, Felipe, son nombres que un lector del siglo I reconocería de inmediato. Hay comentaristas que han sugerido que el evangelista utilizó tantos detalles históricos porque dirigía su escrito a cristianos que no provenían del judaísmo y probablemente no aceptarían el Evangelio solamente por la fe, sino que necesitaban hechos históricos que corroboraran lo narrado.

Estos detalles son muy importantes para los cristianos, porque nuestra fe no está basada en fábulas ni teorías, sino también en hechos históricos. Nosotros, al igual que los destinatarios de la obra de San Lucas, tenemos que ver las pruebas del nacimiento de Cristo: el quién, qué, cuándo, dónde y cómo de su primera venida. Pero esto no se aplica solamente al Adviento, sino a cualquier época de la vida humana. Tal vez nos toque lidiar con enfermedades, desempleo o problemas de relaciones personales; o bien es posible que todo esté tranquilo en el exterior, pero espiritualmente nos sintamos vacíos. Incluso que hayamos escuchado el Evangelio una y otra vez, pero necesitemos una comprensión más profunda de la buena nueva en el corazón, es decir, la verdad de que el Hijo de Dios vino al mundo y se hizo uno de nosotros.

Si aceptamos esta asombrosa realidad de la Encarnación, experimentaremos un cambio de vida. Si reconocemos que Jesús vino como un hombre de carne y hueso en una época histórica específica y en un lugar concreto, tal vez lleguemos a desarrollar una mayor expectativa de que el Señor también se puede hacer presente en nuestra vida personal. Jesús es el autor de una obra maestra — nuestra fe— y el que la perfecciona, y como cualquier gran autor, le preocupan hasta los detalles más pequeños de nuestra existencia. ¡Porque nos ama mucho!

*“Jesús, Señor mío, sé que tú eres el dueño de toda la historia; por eso te entrego mi vida y te ruego que me hagas parte de tu plan.”*

Escogida con el permiso de la Palabra Entre Nosotros. Vol 35, Numero 1; Advent 2015.

## NOTICIAS DE LA PARROQUIA

**Encontrando la Misericordia de Dios** – El Papa Francisco ha convocado el año del Jubileo de la Misericordia "dedicado a vivir en nuestra vida cotidiana la misericordia que el Padre constantemente extiende para todos nosotros" (Misericordiae Vultus, 25). El año de la Misericordia comienza el **8 de diciembre**. Este año Santo será un tiempo especial para todos nosotros para reflexionar sobre el amor que Dios nos tiene y cómo podemos encontrar la misericordia: cuando necesitamos misericordia en nuestras vidas, cómo podemos encontrar y recibir misericordia y formas de poder compartir misericordia con los demás. Para aprender más sobre como puede encontrar la misericordia de Dios en este año, vaya a: [mercy.adw.org](http://mercy.adw.org).

**Regalo Perfecto** – Navidad celebra con alegría el regalo perfecto, el cumplimiento del amor de Dios en Jesús. Este Adviento, toma tiempo fuera del ajetreo de la temporada para encontrar la verdadera paz. Infórmate e inscríbete para recibir diariamente reflexiones de Adviento por texto o por correo electrónico al [www.RegaloPerfecto.org](http://www.RegaloPerfecto.org).

**Se les recuerda** – Si usted ha recogido una etiqueta de regalo, por favor no se olvide traer su regalo nuevo, y envuelto con su etiqueta a la misa de hoy o traerlo a la rectoría a más tardar el martes, **8 de diciembre** (cerramos a las 8 de la noche). Si usted no puede comprar el regalo, por favor póngase en contacto con Pam Quinn al [pquinn505@aol.com](mailto:pquinn505@aol.com) o Norma Canedo o el padre Barbieri al 202-347-3215. ¡Muchas gracias por su generosidad en ayudar a los necesitados!

**Solemnidad de la Inmaculada Concepción** – El martes **8 de diciembre** es la Solemnidad de la Inmaculada Concepción, día de precepto. Las misas se celebrarán a las 7:00, 8:00, 11:00 de la mañana, 12:10 del mediodía, 5:30 de la tarde y 7:00 de la noche en español. Misa de vigilia a las 5:30 de la tarde el **7 de diciembre** Cardenal Wuerl (inglés) con la apertura del Año del Jubileo de la Misericordia.

**Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe** – Únase a nosotros a la celebración de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe aquí en la Catedral en la misa de español a la 1:00 de la tarde el domingo **13 de diciembre**. Después de la misa habrá refrescos y música en el salón de conferencias del Oeste. ¡Todos están invitados!

**Ofrendas Florales** – Cada año se hacen todos los esfuerzos posibles para decorar la Catedral para la Navidad de una manera que refleje verdaderamente la noble sencillez de esta época. Para hacerlo de nuevo, necesitamos de su apoyo generoso. Usted puede mandar su ofrenda de flores a la rectoría, ponerla en la cesta de la colecta, o donar en la página digital de la Catedral. Sabemos que en esta época, hay muchas solicitudes, por eso apreciamos cualquier donación.

## NOTICIAS DE LA PARROQUIA

**Ofrenda de Navidad** – Durante el Adviento, tenemos la oportunidad de reflexionar sobre las muchas bendiciones del Señor, en particular los dones que se experimentan en San Mateo. Dependemos de su generosidad, la cual nos permite construir el Reino de Dios en nuestra parroquia y en nuestra comunidad. Los invitamos a que manden su donación de Navidad a la rectoría, ponerla en la cesta de la colecta, o donar vía [www.stmatthewscathedral.org](http://www.stmatthewscathedral.org). Agradecemos sinceramente su generosidad y pido a Dios que esta Navidad traiga muchas bendiciones a usted y toda su familia.

**Adoración al Santísimo Sacramento** – Les invitamos el lunes **21 de diciembre** después de la misa de 5:30 de la tarde, a que se unan en adoración al Santísimo, de 6:00 a 7:00 de la tarde. El Sacramento de Reconciliación estará disponible durante la hora de la adoración.

**Horario de la Rectoría** – Horario de la Rectoría del **19 de diciembre al 28** y es el siguiente:

Sábado 19 – 10 de la mañana a 2 de la tarde  
 Domingo 20 – 10:30 de la mañana a 3 de la tarde  
 Lunes 21 a miércoles 23 – 9 de la mañana a 4:30 de la tarde  
 Jueves 24 – 9 de la mañana a 2 de la tarde  
 Viernes 25 a domingo 27 – Cerrado  
 Lunes 28 – 9 de la mañana a 4:30 de la tarde

**Caminando Con María, Iniciando el Año de la Misericordia** – Todos están invitados a la celebración arquidiocesana de apertura del Año de La Misericordia, el sábado **12 de diciembre**, fiesta de Nuestra Señora de

Guadalupe, en la Basílica de la Inmaculada Concepción. Se ofrecerá el sacramento de Reconciliación de 1:00-2:00 de la tarde; la misa bilingüe será celebrada a las 2:30 de la tarde. El Obispo Mario E. Dorsonville será el principal celebrante y predicador. Las procesiones con la imagen de la Virgen de Guadalupe saldrán a las 12 del mediodía del Santuario del Sagrado Corazón y de la Iglesia Holy Name. Para mayor visite [www.adw.org/guadalupe](http://www.adw.org/guadalupe).

**Cena Navideña para Personas en Necesidad** – La Basílica de la Inmaculada Concepción proveerá cientos de cenas para los pobres, personas sin hogar, y los ancianos. Si conoce a alguien que quisiera que se le lleve una cena a su hogar el día de Navidad, contacte a Norma Canedo al 202-347-3215 o [ncanedo@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:ncanedo@stmatthewscathedral.org) hasta el 13 de diciembre con el nombre de la persona, su dirección y número de teléfono. Se necesitan voluntarios, visite: [www.nationalshrine.com/christmasdinner](http://www.nationalshrine.com/christmasdinner).

## LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

**Domingo 6** Bar 5:1-9 / *Segundo* Fil 1:4-6,8-11 / Lc 3:1-6  
*Domingo de Adviento*  
**Lunes 7** Is 35:1-10 / Lc 5:17-26  
*San Ambrosio*  
**Martes 8** Gén 3:9-15,20 / Ef 1:3-6, *Solemnidad* 11-12 / Lc 1:26-38  
*de la Inmaculada Concepción*  
**Miércoles 9** Is 40:25-31 / *San Juan Diego* Mt 11:28-30  
**Jueves 10** Is 41:13-20 / Mt 11:11-15  
**Viernes 11** Is 48:17-19 / *San Dámaso I* Mt 11:16-19  
**Sábado 12** Za 2:14-17 / Lc 1:26-38  
*Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe*  
**Domingo 13** Sof 3:14-18 / *Tercer* Fil 4:4-7 / Lc 3:10-18  
*Domingo de Adviento*

## MASS INTENTIONS December 6 – 13

### Sunday, December 6

5:30pm (December 5 Vigil) – Francisco De León  
 7am – Tracy Marshall  
 8:30am – Carolina Sulbarán  
 10am – Walter & Mary Orzechowski  
 11:30am – James Evans Ginter  
 1pm – Gabriela Sotelo  
 5:30pm – All Parishioners

### Monday, December 7

7am – Jessica Chambers  
 8am – Special Intention JA & V (living)  
 12:10pm – James Lewis  
 5:30pm – Julio Cesar Villatoro

### Tuesday, December 8

7am – Brooksie, Betsie & Myrtle Banks  
 8am – Gerarda Mercedes Hife  
 11am – Clara Van Hissenhoven  
 12:10pm – Ken Odette  
 5:30pm – Jeanne Forte  
 7pm – Francisco & Angelica De León

### Wednesday, December 9

7am – Thanksgiving  
 8am – Theresa Healy  
 12:10pm – William Ressegue  
 5:30pm – Thanksgiving

### Thursday, December 10

7am – Cathy Fox  
 8am – Edna De León (living)  
 12:10pm – Richard Baran  
 5:30pm – Rose Marie G. Boyle

### Friday, December 11

7am – Julia Warren  
 8am – Cornelio Bautista  
 12:10pm – James M. Fitzgerald  
 5:30pm – Leighton Shank

### Saturday, December 12

8am – Steve Moore (living)  
 12:10pm – Richard Castley-White  
 5:30pm – All Parishioners

### Sunday, December 13

7am – Tracy Marshall  
 8:30am – Vincenta Jaime Matzen  
 10am – Anna Marie Troidl  
 11:30am – Joe L. Myberry  
 1pm – Maria Angeles Latasa  
 5:30pm – Philip Buffa



# Saint Matthew's Cathedral



## A Festival of Lessons and Carols

*Including*

**The Great "O" Antiphons in Latin Chant and the music  
from the Renaissance to Contemporary Classics**

*Followed by a Christmas Carol Sing-along in the Great Hall*

**Sunday, December 13, 2015  
7:30pm**

Join us for our annual, much-anticipated evening of splendid choral music, hymns and songs and inspiring readings presented by the *Schola Cantorum* and Saint Matthew's Festival Singers and the Cathedral Lectors.

***1725 Rhode Island Ave, NW Washington DC***

*Free and open to the public. Donations will be gladly accepted.*

*Cathedral parking garage will remain open.*



# 175th Parish Anniversary News



## Coming Soon—A New Book about St. Matthew's!



Are you curious about the origins and history of St. Matthew's as a parish? A new book featuring

historical narrative, stories, and images from the past 175 years will soon be published. Stay tuned for details in coming weeks.

## 175th Anniversary Pilgrimage ~ Shrines of France ~

Msgr. Jameson invites parishioners and friends to join him on pilgrimage from **April 13-22, 2016** to Lyon, Ars, Annecy, Paray-le-Monial, Chartres, Lisieux, Normandy, Paris and Lourdes. The cost of the trip is \$3665.00 (double occupancy) per person. **A deposit of \$350 is due on December 15, 2015.** Don't wait, pilgrims, to sign up for this wonderful journey!

For more information, visit [www.stmatthewscathedral.org](http://www.stmatthewscathedral.org) or view the brochure at [http://www.stmatthewscathedral.org/docs/france\\_brochure\\_2016.pdf](http://www.stmatthewscathedral.org/docs/france_brochure_2016.pdf). Let St. Therese, the Little Flower, St. John Vianney and St. Margaret Mary Alacoque inspire you during this journey of faith as we continue our 175th Anniversary celebration. Join us!



## Festival of Lessons and Carols – A 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Presentation

Join us for this popular evening service of music and reflections on the coming of the Lord, on Sunday, **December 13** at 7:30pm!

## Call for Cathedral Parish Life Photos

Do you have photos of your parents' or grandparents' wedding at St. Matthews? Photos of



baptisms? Or of your family standing in front of the altar at Easter? The 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Publication

Committee seeks historic photos of events at St. Matthew's for potential use in our anniversary documents. Please submit photos with the date and description of the event to Dan Evans at [175thanniversary@stmatthewscathedral.org](mailto:175thanniversary@stmatthewscathedral.org) or contact Dan at 202-587-5138. We can assist with scanning and copying your originals. All submissions will become part of the Cathedral Archives.

## MILESTONES IN CATHEDRAL HISTORY

1947 – November 15: Pope Pius XII separated Washington from the Baltimore-Washington Archdiocese and made Washington an independent Archdiocese. St. Matthew's was named the Cathedral and Mother Church of the new archdiocese.

## Memories Still Wanted!

Your help is needed to mark the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Parish of St. Matthew the Apostle, now the Cathedral Parish, and since 1939, the seat of the Archdiocese of Washington. **You are invited to share stories and memories of how your Catholic faith has shaped your life, your faith and your family.**

Maybe you have a story of how your Catholic education has made a difference to your future, how you drew closer to your faith because of your Cathedral involvement, or how Catholic Charities or a Cathedral program or ministry offered you help, hope, or the chance to serve others when you needed it. Share your favorite memories of parish festivals, volunteering, liturgies, social justice events, Christmas Masses and Easter mornings.

**The anniversary celebration of our parish is best marked by the inspirations, gratitude, joy, and power of faith.** Your stories and those of your ancestors reflect how St. Matthew's had shared the joy of the Gospel in downtown Washington, DC for 175 years.

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

# Vuelve a Casa Para Navidad

## Servicio Comunitario de la Penitencia de Adviento

**Martes 15 de diciembre,  
12:10 del mediodía**



Les invitamos a que experimenten el amor de Jesucristo a través del sacramento de la Reconciliación en nuestro Servicio Comunitario de la Penitencia de Adviento.

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

Únete a los feligreses y amigos a reconocer nuestra necesidad de perdón del pecado y de la reconciliación con Dios en la preparación para la venida de nuestro Señor Jesucristo en la Navidad. Sacerdotes de la Arquidiócesis estarán disponibles para las confesiones en distintos idiomas: inglés, español, portugués e intérprete para sordos.

Preguntas  
Llame a la Rectoría al 202-347-3215  
CATEDRAL DE SAN MATEO APOSTOL  
1725 Rhode Island Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
[www.stmatthewscathedral.org](http://www.stmatthewscathedral.org)





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

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

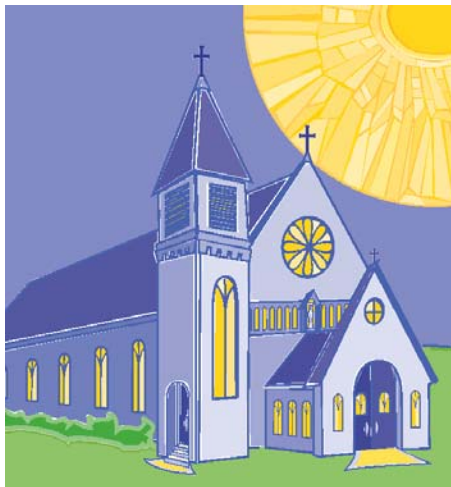
Sign up using the enrollment form on the other side or go online to [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) and use our parish code **DC284** to enroll today!

**ENROLL TODAY!**

### *How does Faith Direct work?*

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

### *When do transactions take place?*



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

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

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

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

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

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

# E-GIVING ENROLLMENT FORM



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

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

DC284



C

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.