

TODAY'S READINGS

When the Son of the Man comes in his glory . . .
(Matthew 25:31)

Today is the last Sunday in the church year. So it's appropriate to reflect on the end of time, on judgment, and on the life to come. These topics can fill us with a number of positive thoughts and a few fearful ones. In our anxious moments, we may worry about whether we or our loved ones get into heaven. We may worry about death itself or what we will actually be doing for all eternity in heaven.

In our more positive moments, we are probably filled with hope and expectation. We trust that the second Coming will be great. We can't wait to live in a place where there are no wars, poverty, or sickness. We believe that heaven is far better place than this world, and we greatly look forward to a life filled with peace and happiness.

Thinking about the Second Coming can also help remind us of a key truth of our faith: We cannot save ourselves. Only Jesus can do that—and he did, when he died on the cross for us. But isn't it ironic that while we cannot save ourselves, God will still judge us based on how we have loved one another and cared for the poor and needy around us? How is that possible?

The truth is, our acts of love and charity should be a direct consequence of our realization that Jesus, our King, loves us. The experience of Jesus' love should send us to our knees in worship, and it should send us out into the world, eager to spread that love to everyone we come in contact with—our loved ones, the needy, and even our enemies.

So as we contemplate our loving, merciful King today, let's ask him to inspire us to serve his kingdom. And whenever we perform acts of charity, let's see them as a way that we can give our hearts back to Jesus, who gave himself for us.

"Jesus, give me a generous heart. Teach me how to open my heart—and my hands—to everyone around me"

Taken from *The Word Among Us*, October 2011, Vol. 30, Number 9:
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THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday 20th Ez 34:11-12,15-17 / 1 Cor 15:20-26,28 /
Our Lord Jesus Christ the King Mt 25:31-46

Monday 21st Dn 1:1-6,8-20 / Lk 21:1-4
The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday 22nd Dn 2:31-45 / Lk 21:5-11
St. Cecilia

Wednesday 23rd Dn 5:1-6,13-14,16-17,23-28 / Lk 21:12-19
St. Clement I, St. Columban & Blessed Miguel Agustín Pro

Thursday 24th Dn 6:12-28 / Lk 21:20-28
St. Andrew Dũng-Lac & his companions
Thanksgiving Day

Friday 25th Dn 7:2-14 / Lk 21:29-33
St. Catherine of Alexandria

Saturday 26th Dn 7:15-27 / Lk 21:34-36

Sunday 27th Is 63:16-17,19; 64:2-7 / 1 Cor 1:3-9 /
First Sunday of Advent Mk 13:33-37

LAS LECTURAS DE HOY

Jesucristo, Rey del Universo
Hoy día celebramos la Solemnidad de Jesucristo Rey del Universo, el final del Año Litúrgico. En esta fiesta proclamamos que Jesucristo es el "Rey de Reyes y Señor de Señores" (Apocalipsis 19,16), el que está sentado en el Trono, el Cordero, al que un día todas las creaturas aclamarán con grandes voces "la alabanza, el honor, la gloria y el poder por los siglos de los siglos" (Apocalipsis 5,13).

Reflexionando en que Jesús es el Rey, se nos vienen a la mente algunos de sus atributos divinos (su omnisciencia, omnipresencia, su naturaleza divina e inmutable). Pero Jesús es también la revelación del Padre, que se presentó a Moisés como el "Dios tierno y compasivo" (Éxodo 34,6). Él es el Buen Pastor, que cuida a su rebaño, buscando a sus ovejas y llevándolas a buenos pastos (Ezequiel 34,16; Salmo 23). Él es el Salvador que siente compasión por los enfermos, que se conmueve profundamente por los que sufren (Juan 11,33) y por los que tienen hambre de la Palabra de Dios (Marcos 6,34).

Espléndida es la ternura de nuestro Rey, y Dios quiere que nosotros, sus hijos en Jesús, reflejemos la misma compasión por los que sufren, en especial si son creyentes. San Juan Crisóstomo nos urge a poner a los necesitados en primer lugar: "Nadie ha sido jamás acusado por no engalanar la iglesia, pero el infierno espera a los que desprecian a los necesitados... un templo mucho más valioso que una iglesia" (Sermones sobre San Mateo, 50).

Después de su resurrección, Jesús se apareció en varios lugares pero la gente no lo reconocía inmediatamente. Hoy, Jesús sigue visitándonos en el hambriento, el sediento, el enfermo, el sin casa, el encarcelado; también está en aquellos a quienes alimentamos, vestimos, albergamos y visitamos, y en las personas a quienes dejamos de ayudar. Aunque las obras de caridad no sustituyen a la fe en Cristo para nuestra salvación, seremos juzgados según las obras que hagamos.

Tales servicios demuestran cuánto amamos a Jesús (1 Juan 3,16) y acercarse a Él de esta manera implica darse uno mismo. Cuando nuestro Rey vuelva en gloria, ¡qué alegría será escuchar su invitación: "Vengan ustedes los que han sido bendecidos por mi Padre; reciban el reino que está preparado para ustedes desde que Dios hizo el mundo" (Mateo 25,34).

"Dios y Señor nuestro, te rogamos que nos agrandes el corazón, para aprender a reconocerte en los demás y servirte en ellos."

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ADVENT 2011

THE SEASON OF HOPE & PREPARATION

Next Sunday, **November 27** is the first Sunday of the Holy Season of Advent. Among the many ways to prepare during this holy season to receive Christ are these:

- Commit to daily prayer, and visit the Blessed Sacrament or come for an occasional daily Mass.
- Attend our Advent Day of Recollection on **December 3**, "Come and See..." (John 1:39), presented by Sr. Patricia Parachini, SNJM, DMin (see the flyer).
- Reconcile with the Father, the Church and yourself in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Note our Advent Penance Service on Tuesday, **December 20**.
- Give to St. Matthew's Adopt-a-Family program (see the flyer) or perform other good works.
- Plan for daily spiritual reading. Pick up that classic that you have been waiting to start or check our website front page for a link to brief daily reflections throughout Advent. You also may pick up the Advent edition of *Five Minutes with the Word* at the church entrance. Pick up a brochure listing all our liturgies and events at the church entrance or in the pews. Take a few extra to share with family and friends as you make your holiday rounds!

CATHEDRAL CALENDAR

November 20 – November 27

SUNDAY—Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King.

Hospitality receptions are held in the North Conference Room following all Masses except the 7am Mass. Las clases de Catecumenado y Catequesis Familiar continúan a las 11:00 de la mañana.

MONDAY—Eucharistic Adoration is held in the Cathedral from 6pm until 7pm.

Wine and Wisdom meets at 7pm in the East Conference Room.

TUESDAY—El Grupo de Oración en Español se reunirá a las 7 de la tarde en el salón de conferencias del Oeste.

WEDNESDAY—Breaking Open the Word meets at 7pm in the West Conference Room.

THURSDAY—Thanksgiving day.

A bilingual (English & Spanish) Mass of Thanksgiving is celebrated at 10am, the only Mass of the day. The Cathedral opens at 9am and closes after the Mass. There are no Confessions. **The parish offices are closed.**

FRIDAY—The Cathedral opens at 7:30am and closes at 1pm. Masses are celebrated at 8am and 12:10pm. There are no Confessions.

SUNDAY—First Sunday of Advent

El retiro de Adviento en español empieza a las 8:30 de la mañana en el salón de conferencias del Norte para adultos y en el salón de conferencia del Oeste para niños.

NEWS & NOTES

COME – LET US ADORE HIM!

You are invited to the Cathedral for our monthly evening of Eucharistic Adoration this Monday, **November 21** from 6 to 7pm. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available.

WINE AND WISDOM

The young women of Wine and Wisdom invite you on Monday, **November 21** to discuss the power of Reconciliation—an excellent way to prepare your heart for Advent. They will meet from 7-8:30pm in the East Conference Room. If you have questions, email Tiffany Waits at wineandwisdom.stmatthews@gmail.com.

THANKSGIVING DAY MASS

Join us in celebrating a bilingual (English and Spanish) Mass on Thanksgiving Day, **November 24**, at 10am. Msgr. Jameson will be the celebrant and homilist, with our rectory priests as concelebrants.

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

All are welcome to celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe here at the Cathedral on Sunday, **December 11**, at 1pm Mass in Spanish, followed by refreshments and music in the West Conference Room.

Bishop Francisco González will celebrate a Mass in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Saturday, **December 10** at 2:30pm at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception (400 Michigan Ave., NE). The procession from the Shrine of the Sacred Heart (3211 Pine St., NW) to the Basilica will begin at 12 Noon. For more information, contact Manuel Aliaga at the archdiocesan Office of Hispanic Pastoral Affairs at 301-853-4567.

FESTIVAL SINGER AUDITIONS

Every year we invite experienced singers of the parish to join the *Schola Cantorum* for our Advent Lessons and Carols and the 10pm Christmas Eve Mass. Singers must attend all rehearsals but are not obligated to sing for both liturgies. We need singers with an ability to read music, a pleasant voice, previous choral experience, and a commitment to work diligently and cooperatively. The rehearsal schedule is below:

Wednesdays, Nov 30 and Dec 7, 7:45–9pm—Rehearsal

Monday, Dec 5, 6:45–8:45pm—Rehearsal

Sunday, Dec 11, 7:30–9pm—**Advent Lessons and Carols (6:30pm arrival)**

Wednesdays, Dec 14 & 21, 6:45–8:45pm—Rehearsal

Monday, Dec 19, 6:45–8:45pm—Rehearsal

Saturday, Dec 24, 9:15pm–11:15pm—**10pm Christmas Eve Mass (8pm arrival)**

To schedule an audition or for more information, contact Mr. Thomas Stehle at tstehle@stmatthewscathedral.org.

FAITH IN ACTION

HOMELESS MINISTRY

Every Monday from 7:30 to 11am, 55-70 homeless men and women come for prayer and Scripture lessons, light breakfast, and toiletries, underclothing and bag lunches.

Needed: Lunchmakers for the homeless. St. Matthew's Homeless Ministry needs more volunteers to provide bagged lunches for the poor and homeless who come to our Monday morning program. If you can provide some lunches each month, every other month, or as a one-time service, please contact Olivia Crosby at 301-806-1292 or oliviajfm@yahoo.com, or Norma Canedo at 2canedo@cardinalmail.cua.edu. Thank you!

Monetary donations. You can help us to distribute socks, underwear and toiletries to the homeless by giving to the Poor Box or sending donations to the Rectory. Thank you! Please note that we no longer accept clothing donations.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE

HAVE YOU BEEN TO FATIMA?

Join Msgr. Jameson and fellow parishioners and friends on a pilgrimage to Madrid, Fatima and Lisbon in April 2012! The itinerary showcases the best of Madrid while affording you time to explore the city. Spend time at the famous site in Fatima where Our Lady appeared six times to Lucia, Jacinta and Francisco and take time to reflect and pray. Discover interesting, artsy and unique parts of Lisbon and hip surrounding towns. The group will leave Washington on Wednesday, **April 11, 2012**, and return on Sunday, **April 22, 2012**. Enroll by **February 1, 2012**. For more information, see the brochure on our website, pick one up at the rectory or call Msgr. Jameson.



RESPECT FOR LIFE

WORLD DAY OF CITIES FOR LIFE

The Community of Sant' Egidio in Washington, DC is joining the World Day of Cities for Life on Wednesday **November 30**, with a prayer vigil at 6:30pm here at the Cathedral. The event is part of a worldwide initiative against the death penalty in which more than 1,300 cities and 87 countries are participating. They invite you to join and to extend the invitation to other people and organizations. For more information please call 1-917-583-3993 or e-mail santegidioc@gmail.com.

FAITH FORMATION

BOOK CLUB: *A CHRISTMAS CAROL*

All are invited to join the St. Matthew's Book Club for its next meeting Monday, **December 12**. We will discuss Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, perhaps the most famous Christmas related novel ever produced. We will explore the religious dimensions of the work as well as many other aspects of this famous tale. The club meets in the West Conference Room at 6:45pm. Please contact Paul Zummo at pzummo@gmail.com if you have any questions.

BECOMING CATHOLIC

Throughout the year, adults come forward seeking to learn about the Catholic faith. For those who are interested in learning about the Catholic faith or thinking about becoming Catholic, St. Matthew's offers Inquiry, a casual, ongoing conversation about the Catholic faith, once a month. Inquiry is the first step in the process of discerning one's commitment to full initiation in the Catholic Church. Inquiry meets on the second Wednesday of the month from 6:30 to 7:30pm in the East Conference Room. A brief overview of the entire adult initiation process (RCIA), which begins formally in June each year, can be presented after Inquiry for those who are interested. The next Inquiry will be held Wednesday, **December 14**. For more information, contact Heather Kinney at hkinney@stmatthewscathedral.org.

ADULT CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

St. Matthew's offers adult Confirmation preparation for *active Catholics who have received both the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist* in the weeks between Easter and Pentecost. The celebration of adult Confirmation occurs at a special Mass on Pentecost Sunday, which will be May 27 in 2012 (Memorial Day weekend). Preparation includes five weekly sessions on consecutive Thursday evenings—tentatively set for April 19, 26 and May 3, 10, and 17—and a Saturday retreat tentatively set for May 19. Registration will begin in January, so please follow announcements in the parish bulletin and on the parish website in the coming months for information on how to register.

YOUNG ADULTS

PIZZA SUNDAY - Sunday, November 20 – After 5:30pm Mass - North Conference Room - Please join other Cathedral Young Adults for pizza and fellowship after the 5:30pm Sunday Mass.

YOUNG ADULT HIKE - Saturday, November 26 – Time & Location TBA – If you're around next weekend, you can at least get out of the city with a hike led by Fr. Regan. Contact Krista Tuomi kristatuomi@gmail.com for more information or to sign up.

NOTICIAS DE LA PARROQUIA

ADORACIÓN AL SANTÍSIMO SACRAMENTO

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

MISA DEL DIA DE ACCIÓN DE GRACIAS

Les invito para reunirnos, tanto los sacerdotes como la comunidad parroquial de San Mateo, a la celebración de la Misa de Acción de Gracias, que será bilingüe, el día **24 de noviembre** a las 10:00 de la mañana. “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.

ADOPTA-UNA-FAMILIA

Todas las Navidades, la Catedral de San Mateo patrocina el programa “Adopta una Familia.” Este programa ayuda con regalos a familias necesitadas de la parroquia por medio del “Árbol Navideño (Giving Tree)” y la participación de empresas y grupos que auspician a las familias.

Participación en el “Árbol Navideño”. No se olvide de recoger su tarjeta del “árbol navideño” al comienzo del Adviento. Todos los regalos van a ayudar a las familias necesitadas de nuestra área para Navidad o al programa de los Desamparados de San Mateo. Todas las tarjetas están marcadas claramente para ambos programas. Regalos nuevos, sin envolver, tienen que estar de vuelta en San Mateo para el miércoles **12 de diciembre**. Si no tiene tiempo para comprar el regalo, considere contribuir con una donación monetaria. Contamos con su generosidad para continuar sirviendo a nuestros vecinos a través de estos programas. ¡Gracias!

FIESTA DE NUESTRA SEÑORA DE GUADALUPE

Venga y únase a nosotros a la celebración de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe aquí en la Catedral en la misa de español de 1 de la tarde el domingo **11 de diciembre**. Después de la misa habrá refrescos y música en el salón de conferencias del Oeste. ¡Todos están invitados!

El Obispo Francisco González nos invita a la celebración anual de la fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, el sábado **10 de diciembre** a las 2:30 de la tarde en la Basílica del Santuario Nacional de la Inmaculada Concepción (400 Michigan Ave, NE). La procesión anual saldrá del Santuario del Sagrado Corazón (3211 Pine St., NW) a las 12 del mediodía hacia la Basílica. Para más información llamar a Manuel Aliaga a la Oficina de Asuntos Pastorales Hispánicos a 301-853-4567.

RETIRO Y REFLEXIONES DE ADVIENTO

El domingo **27 de noviembre**, tendremos una mañana de reflexión espiritual dando comienzo al tiempo de Adviento. El retiro empieza a las 8:30 de la mañana hasta las 12:30 del mediodía en el salón de conferencias del Norte. Entrada al lado del estacionamiento.

También los martes comenzando el **29 de noviembre** a las 7:30 de la noche en el salón de conferencias del Oeste tendremos las reflexiones de Adviento, tomando como referencia las promesas mesiánicas del profeta Isaías. Esperamos nos ayuden a prepararnos para celebrar la Navidad con un corazón renovado y bien dispuesto.

Semana 1. Martes **29 de noviembre**
¡Velad! y estar despiertos

Semana 2. Martes **6 de diciembre**
Consuelen a mi pueblo

Semana 3. Martes **13 de diciembre**
¡Alégrate! El Señor esta contigo
Obispo Francisco González, S.F.

Semana 4. Martes **20 de diciembre**
¡Levántate y brilla! que ha llegado tu Luz
Empecemos esta época del año con una buena preparación
¡Les esperamos!

PREPARAR ALMUERZO

PARA LAS PERSONAS SIN HOGAR

El ministerio de las personas sin hogar de San Mateo necesita voluntarios que provean almuerzos una vez al mes o cada dos meses. Todos los lunes, San Mateo recibe a 60 o más personas pobres y sin hogar y les dan almuerzos junto con otros servicios. Se necesita más voluntarios que puedan hacer almuerzos, ya que este programa crece cada día más. Para más información, puede contactar a Norma Canedo, 62canedo@cardinalmail.cua.edu ó a Olivia Crosby, 202-806-1292.

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Domingo 20 Ez 34:11-12,15-17/ 1 Cor 15:20-26,28 /
Jesucristo Rey del Universo Mt 25:31-46

Lunes 21 Dn 1:1-6,8-20 / Lc 21:1-4
Presentación de la Virgen María

Martes 22 Dn 2:31-45 / Lc 21:5-11
Santa Cecilia

Miércoles 23 Dn 5:1-6,13-14,16-17,23-28 / Lc 21:12-19
San Clemente, San Columbano y Beato Miguel Agustín

Jueves 24 Dn 6:12-28 / Lc 21:20-28
San Andrés Dung-Lac y compañeros
Día de Acción de Gracias

Viernes 25 Dn 7:2-14 / Lc 21:29-33
Santa Catalina de Alejandría

Sábado 26 Dn 7:15-27 / Lc 21:34-36

Domingo 27 Is 63:16-17,19; 64:2-7/ 1 Cor 1:3-9
Primer domingo de Adviento Mc 13:33-37

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, November 20

5:30pm (vigil) – All Souls
7am – Mary Carlin Downham
8:30am – All Souls
10am – Gregg Burge
11:30am – Virginia Aquino
1pm – Harret &
Robert Shulman (living)
5:30pm – Jose O. Lara

Monday, November 21

7am – Steven Caggiano
8am – Raymond Dineen
12:10pm – All Souls
5:30pm –
Sandra Marie Mullins

Tuesday, November 22

7am – Jeannie Redmond
8am – Maureen Gilman
12:10pm – President & Mrs.
John F. Kennedy
5:30pm – All Souls

Wednesday, November 23

7am – All Souls
8am –
Maria Mabilangan-Haley
12:10pm – Concordia Aoanan
5:30pm – Emma & Luciano
Damasco (living)

Thursday, November 24

10am – All Souls

Friday, November 25

8am – Sandy Packard
12:10pm – All Souls

Saturday, November 26

8am – Conrado Sabelino
12:10pm – Andrew S. Latka
5:30pm – All Souls

Sunday, November 27

7am – Roselina L. Rubio
8:30am –
Logan Joseph Cauthen
10am – All Souls
11:30am – Fr. Levester Jones
1pm – Acción de Gracias
5:30pm – Brigitte Kekeh

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

MARRIAGES

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

BAPTISMS

Parents who wish to have their child baptized at the Cathedral should contact the Baptismal Coordinator at the Rectory at 202-347-3215 x555. Parents are encouraged to make contact with us **at least six (6) months in advance** of a desired baptismal date, at which time they may ask for the priest of their choice to perform the Baptism. This early contact enables parents to be scheduled for the necessary sacramental formation session before the child's baptism and allows time for sponsors to obtain letters from their parish pastor.

VISITS & PILGRIMAGES

Individuals, families and groups from around the country and around the world visit the Cathedral to join us in prayer, at Mass or to celebrate Mass in one of our chapels. We invite you to plan a visit or pilgrimage to our Cathedral—all are welcome. Once you have a date in mind, let us know so we can arrange to accommodate you. Contact us at 202-347-3215 x512 or 202-587-5143 or mhurley@stmatthewscathedral.org.

Please check our parish website regularly for updates on liturgies and events at St. Matthew's!

www.stmatthewscathedral.org

TOURS

Visitors are invited to schedule a tour of the Cathedral or to do a self-guided tour using the color brochures available at the inside entrance to the Cathedral. Tours are given free of charge. Donations to the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle are always appreciated and may be given to your tour guide or to our receptionist at the Rectory. To schedule a tour, contact us at 202-347-3215 x512 or 202-587-5143 or mhurley@stmatthewscathedral.org.

CHRISTMAS CARDS & OTHER GIFT ITEMS

St. Matthew's is pleased to offer a 48-page souvenir book on our beautiful Cathedral church written by Richard Schmidt and Claudia Rousseau, with Joseph Carey, Nancy McKinley and Elizabeth Sullivan. It features the Cathedral's history, art and architecture vividly portrayed through photographs by local photographer, Neil Greentree.

Also available are sets of six note cards picturing the art of the Cathedral, boxed sets of ten **Christmas cards** featuring St. Matthew's Crèche, Christmas ornaments and several CD recordings of the Cathedral's *Schola Cantorum*. CD titles are listed on our website.

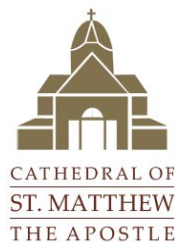


***St. Matthew's
Crèche -
Christmas
cards
available in
boxed sets of
10 cards &
envelopes***

Items are available for purchase in the Rectory during office hours. Unless otherwise indicated in this bulletin, the Rectory is open Monday through Thursday from 9am until 8pm and Friday through Sunday from 9am until 4pm. You also may order items by contacting us at 202-347-3215 x 517 or at gharrington@stmatthewscathedral.org. MasterCard and Visa are accepted.

**CONSIDER
REMEMBERING
YOUR CATHEDRAL
PARISH
IN YOUR WILL.**

For more information,
please contact Msgr. Jameson.





St. Matthew's Cathedral Adopt-A-Family Program Christmas 2011

St. Matthew's is again sponsoring the Adopt-A-Family program to provide assistance to low-income families in our parish community. We help meet families' basic needs by providing grocery certificates, household items, clothing, and toys for the children, among other gifts. Last year we provided over 1,000 gifts to 35 families.

You can help by participating in the **Giving Tree** during Masses in November or by making a **financial contribution**:

- 1) To participate in the **Giving Tree**, choose as many gift tags as you like from the table in the back of the Cathedral after mass the weekends of **November 12th & 13th**, **November 19th & 20th**, **November 26th and 27th**. Please purchase the specific item(s), and return wrapped gift(s) as described on the cards.
- 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" in the note line) and put your donation in an envelope clearly marked **Adopt-A-Family Christmas**. Envelopes are available in the back of the Cathedral.

You can drop off the envelopes in the baskets at the back of the Cathedral after mass the weekends of **November 12th & 13th**, **November 19th & 20th**, **November 26th and 27th**. Your financial contribution can also be sent directly to the Rectory.

We would like to receive donations by **December 12th** 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 Fr. Evelio or Jillian McMahan at jillian.mcmahan@gmail.com.

What would Christmas be without your help?

FOLLOWING THE WAY OF JESUS

**Led by
Sister Patricia A. Parachini,
SNJM, DMin**

**Adjunct Faculty,
Washington Theological Union**

Advent prepares us for Christmas, the celebration of the Christ Child coming to us in Bethlehem, and calls us to direct our hearts and minds to await Christ's coming again at the end of time.

Therefore, Advent is an appropriate time for adult believers to spend some time deepening our relationship to the One whom we await. You are invited to our parish Advent Morning of Recollection to "Come and See..." (John 1:39) - to spend time with Jesus and learn how you are called to follow his Way in your present life circumstances. With time for prayer, input, discussion and reflection, you will begin the Advent season with a posture of receptivity that readies you for the wonderful gifts God offers you through the coming of Jesus! The celebration of the Eucharist will conclude our time together.

Sister Patricia A. Parachini, a Sister of the Holy Names, holds a Doctor of Ministry degree from the Catholic University of America. A pastoral theologian, educator and a spiritual director, Sister Parachini has ministered in a variety of contexts for more than 40 years. In addition to her teaching and formation ministry at Washington Theological Union, her most recent ministries have included: Religious Literacy Project Coordinator at Georgetown University; staff chaplain in pediatrics and a faculty associate of the Center for Clinical Bioethics at Georgetown University Hospital. As a faculty member at both St. Mary's Seminary and University and the Catholic University of America, Sister Parachini taught preaching and pastoral theology. Sister Parachini has taught preaching in summer institutes at St. Elizabeth College, CUA and Aquinas Institute. She has directed retreats, supervised ministers and spiritual directors in training and worked as a campus minister, a parish director of religious education and a teacher in both middle school and high school. For two years, she was the assistant to the director of the diocesan Catechetical Center in Kyoto, Japan.

**Prepare for the coming of Christ in our lives and
in our world by joining us for our annual
Advent Morning of Recollection! All are welcome!**

Parish Morning of Recollection

**DATE:
SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 3, 2011**

**TIME:
9:00AM - 1:00PM**

**PLACE:
NORTH CONFERENCE
ROOM**

No cost to attend...
donations accepted & appreciated

ST. MATTHEW'S CATHEDRAL



1725 Rhode Island Ave. NW
Washington DC 20036
202-347-3215
www.stmatthewscathedral.org

Metro: Red Line to Dupont Circle or
Farragut North

Parking: Street parking or \$5 flat
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hkinney@stmatthewscathedral.org.

The Concluding Rites

Kristopher W. Seaman

Of all the major sections or parts of the Mass (that is, the Introductory Rites, the Liturgy of the Word, and the Liturgy of the Eucharist), the Concluding Rites are the shortest. The Liturgy of the Eucharist ends with the Prayer after Communion, and the Concluding Rites begin with—though not required—announcements. Typically, these announcements are brief and impact the liturgical assembly. They may point to the activities of the parish. Some examples may include announcements for help with the parish’s soup kitchen, the date for the World Youth Day fund-raiser, or a coming adult formation session. Since these announcements are not part of the Communion Rite, they are best not announced before the Prayer after Communion.



The priest celebrant then greets the people with, “The Lord be with you.” He proclaims a blessing over the people. On major feasts and solemnities, there is a solemn blessing. This solemn blessing contains three parts. After each part, the liturgical assembly responds, “Amen.”

The deacon or priest then dismisses the people from liturgy. The original Latin for the dismissal is *Ite missa est*. The word *missa* is the root for Mass and thus gives the Mass its name. It has become quite common to hear people talk about the connection between *missa* and mission. As we know, the Mass should bear fruit in our lives. It means that the Triune God sanctifies us in liturgy. Put another way, through the liturgy the Holy Spirit comes to us to make us grow in holiness. Of course, we have to be open, receptive, and embracing of God’s coming to us through Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit. If we are being called and sanctified by the Triune God, then we bear that mission in our families, workplaces and in our neighborhoods. Of course, we are imperfect human persons, and so each Sunday God continues to call us to grow in holiness by participating in the Sunday eucharistic liturgy.

This understanding of the missionary dimension of the Mass has been articulated by Pope Benedict XVI in his recent exhortation, *Sacramentum Caritatis* (The Sacrament of Charity). The Pope eloquently states, “The mystery of the Eucharist inspires and impels us to work courageously within our world to bring about that renewal of relationships which has its inexhaustible source in God’s gift In a particular way, the Christian laity, formed at the school of the Eucharist,

are called to assume their specific political and social responsibilities” (91). For the Pope, the Eucharist “schools” us and sends us out for our responsibilities as social and political persons. Therefore, the social dimensions of the Mass extend beyond the walls of the Church to live the mission Christ gives to the Church.

What is this social mission that Christ gives to us? The Pope offers two ways we embody the social mission of Christ. The first is through “the sanctification of the world” (92). To sanctify is to grow in holiness. God sends us forth to work for holiness in the political and the social spheres of life. Pope Benedict XVI also alerts us to our mission of being good stewards of God’s creation.

“The world is not something indifferent, raw material to be utilized simply as we see fit. Rather, it is part of God’s good plan (92). Therefore, as the Pope mentions, our second responsibility of the social mission of Christ is to work “responsibly for the protection of creation” (92). All of creation belongs to God alone. God entrusted to us this precious gift in order to take good care of it and all creatures.

In this same exhortation, the Pope acknowledges a need for new dismissal options. In the revised edition of *The Roman Missal*, the priest or deacon may say, “Go forth, the Mass is ended,” “Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord,” “Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life,” or “Go in peace.” “Announce the Gospel” and “glorifying the Lord by your life” both convey the meaning of the dismissal rites. Namely, we are called to take inside ourselves God’s Word, body and blood and allow God to change us in holiness and to live this change in everything we do.

After the proclamation of the actual dismissal, the priest venerates the altar-table with a kiss and then a bow. The Mass has ended.

Although not required, a concluding song or hymn is common for the departure of the liturgical ministers from the liturgy. In some parishes, the organist will play a postlude during the recessional.

KRISTOPHER W. SEAMAN, MA, MAT, is the associate director of the Office for Divine Worship of the diocese of Gary, Indiana.



Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2011

SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING The least shall lead

The Feast of Christ the King reminds us that leadership rests in Jesus' example of serving, calling us to be in solidarity with and care for the most vulnerable. In a 1999 address Pope John Paul II said: "There are many criteria for assessing the health of a particular society . . . Yet the prime criterion is how that society treats those who are the weakest and most vulnerable, and ultimately it is on this basis that society will be judged." How would you rate our society in terms of its treatment of the weak and vulnerable? What are you doing to ensure the care and comfort the gospel demands?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17; 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28; Matthew 25:31-46 (160)*

"I myself will give them rest, says the Lord God."

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Presenting Mary

Today's feast takes us back to literature that never made it into the official canon of scripture but was influential in the early church. According to these apocryphal texts, Mary's parents Joachim and Anne, who had been childless, brought Mary in thanksgiving as a young child to the Temple in Jerusalem where she was consecrated to God. She remained in the Temple to be educated in preparation for her role as Mother of God. We do not have to believe that events actually unfolded in that way to grasp the truth that Mary played an extraordinary role in the salvation story, and we can only marvel at her courage in being willing to see her role through to completion. Are we prepared to do the same?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Daniel 1:1-6, 8-20; Luke 21:1-4 (503)*

"This poor widow put in more than all the rest."

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22 FEAST OF CECILIA, VIRGIN, MARTYR Time for a song

If you're reading this, so far this year you've survived two apocalyptic predictions. One fellow was so sure that Judgment Day was May 21 that he persuaded others to quit their jobs and paper the country with warnings. The other messenger, channeling an alleged ancient spirit, predicted that an earthquake on June 15 would devastate the West Coast. Some continue to root for the Mayan calendar, suggesting that we will run out of time on 12-21-12. But many of us will put our trust in Jesus, who said the day cannot be known. On the feast of the patron saint of music, we'd rather sing a song than whistle in the dark.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Daniel 2:31-45; Luke 21:5-11 (504)*

"Many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he,' and 'The time has come.' Do not follow them!"

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

FEAST OF BLESSED MIGUEL AGUSTÍN PRO, PRIEST, MARTYR Play your part

If being Christian were a crime, would there be enough evidence to convict you? There was enough to convict Father Miguel Pro, a newly ordained Jesuit priest in Mexico during anti-Catholic persecution in the mid-1920s. He often "disguised himself as a beggar to baptize infants, bless marriages, and celebrate Mass. He would appear in jail dressed as a police officer to bring Holy Viaticum to condemned Catholics," one account says, and took up collections for the poor in fashionable neighborhoods dressed

as a businessman. Captured and facing a firing squad, like Christ he forgave his executioners. Jesus foresaw persecution and advised, "Be shrewd as serpents and simple as doves." Miguel Pro did whatever it took to bring Christ to those who needed him. What a little creativity could do for our own daily evangelizing!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Daniel 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Luke 21:12-19 (505)*

"They will seize and persecute you . . . and they will put some of you to death."

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24 FEAST OF ANDREW DŨNG-LAC, PRIEST, MARTYR, AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS; THANKSGIVING DAY Live strong

In her book *The Sense of Wonder* Rachel Carson writes that as we age, we need an antidote against "the sterile preoccupation with things that are artificial, the alienation from the sources of our strength." What are our sources of strength? For Saint Andrew, the Vietnamese priest who was jailed and later killed for being a Christian, Daniel waiting in the lion's den, and the Puritans, whose offer of thanks we imitate today, the answer was God. Today, Thanksgiving, is the right day to remember the source of our strength.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Daniel 6:12-28; Luke 21:20-28 (506)*

"May your God, whom you serve so constantly, save you."

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25

FEAST OF CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGIN, MARTYR Lessons in wisdom

Saint Catherine of Alexandria is traditionally believed to have been martyred in the year 305 A.D. during a time of heavy Roman persecution in the early church. Of noble origins and unsurpassed beauty and brilliance, she is said to have announced to her parents that she would only marry someone who surpassed her in loveliness, intelligence, wealth, and social status—a foreshadowing of her eventual commitment to Christ. Executed by the Roman emperor because of her extraordinary success in attracting converts to Christianity, Catherine became patron saint of libraries and librarians as well as all those associated with teaching. Thank someone in your life who brings wisdom and faith together.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Daniel 7:2-14; Luke 21:29-33 (507)*

"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away."

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26 FEAST OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Living cheerfully—and vigilantly

There's lots of bad news out there. You can hide from it only if you turn off the TV, stop the newspaper, forsake the computer, and don't answer the phone or the door. Unless you live alone, you might want to stay under the bed, too, because in a world of trouble, relationships are the most troublesome of all. Young Mary got the news from a stranger when her boy was only weeks old: Her son would face conflict, and her own heart would be pierced with sorrow. Embracing that revelation, she went home and lived her life, faithful as always.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Daniel 7:15-27; Luke 21:34-36 (508)*

"Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations."

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Scripture quotes come from the New American Bible.

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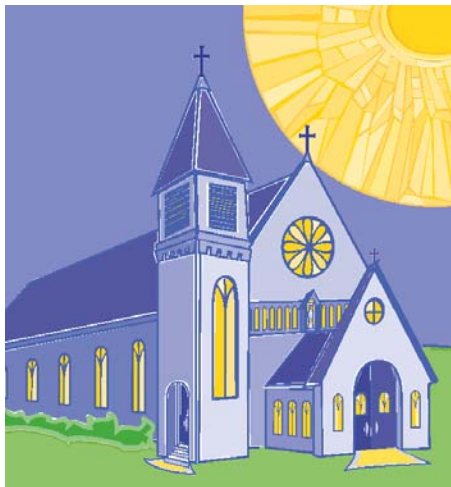
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“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace.” (Peter 4:10)

Weekly Offertory contribution: \$ _____

(Note: Total contribution amount will be debited on the 4th of the month or the next business day. The total amount will be determined by the number of Sundays in the month. Some months have 5 Sundays.)

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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"/> Churches in the Developing World	\$ _____	February	<input type="checkbox"/> All Saints Day	\$ _____	November
<input type="checkbox"/> Ash Wednesday	\$ _____	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.

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