

TODAY'S READINGS

“He made a whip of cords and drove them all out of the temple area.” (John 2:15)
 Today's Gospel tells us that Jesus was angry. But just a little more than a week ago, we read how Jesus told us not to get angry. So, did Jesus commit a sin here? Did he lose his temper? Or is there a place for anger?

Maybe St. Paul can help out here. “Be angry,” he wrote, “but do not sin” (Ephesians 4:26). So there is a type of anger that isn't sinful. In fact, there are times when anger is the only appropriate response. For instance, we have the right to be angry at sins like abortion, racism, sexual abuse, or child trafficking. But at the same time, and no matter how offensive these sins are, we are not justified in sinning ourselves. It comes down to our motivations. As St. Thomas Aquinas taught: “He who is not angry when there is just cause for anger is immoral.” Why? Because “anger looks to the good of justice.”

So anger toward injustice is not sinful; it's even appropriate! It simply needs to be controlled by reason and compassion. Expressions of anger are acceptable if they arise from a desire to restore justice and order—for instance if we are trying to reprove sin or set things right in our family. We just have to be careful not to let our anger overpower us or overshadow the call to love and forgive.

In Jesus' case, his anger was in response to the unjust way the people were treating the Temple. It was a controlled anger also, for immediately afterward, he continued his ministry of preaching and teaching with calmness, conviction, and clarity.

It's okay to get angry—so long as we are vigilant and can keep our emotions in good control. So if you find yourself about to get angry, try your best to link your reaction to good reason, love, and humility. And once you have said your piece, make sure to resolve the situation by restoring love and trust if at all possible.

“Jesus, teach me how to be angry without sinning.”

Taken from *The Word Among Us*, February 2012, Vol. 31, Number 3: Used with permission.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday 11th	Ex 20:1-17 / 1 Cor 1:22-25 / Jn 2:13-25
<i>Third Sunday of Lent</i>	
Monday 12th	2 Kgs 5:1-15 / Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday 13th	Dn 3:25,34-43 / Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday 14th	Dt 4:1,5-9 / Mt 5:17-19
Thursday 15th	Jer 7:23-28 / Lk 11:14-23
Friday 16th	Hos 14:2-10 / Mt 12:28-34
Saturday 17th	Hos 6:1-6 / Lk 18:9-14
Sunday 18th	2 Chr 36:14-16,19-23 / Eph 2:4-10 / Jn 3:14-21
<i>Fourth Sunday of Lent</i>	

LAS LECTURAS DE HOY

Se acercaba la fiesta de la Pascua judía y Jesús fue al templo. Viendo a los que vendían animales para los sacrificios y los que cambiaban monedas para las ofrendas, se enojó mucho y los expulsó a todos exclamando: “¡Saquen esto de aquí! ¡No hagan un mercado de la casa de mi Padre!” (Juan 2,16)

Jesús sentía un gran celo por la casa de su Padre, porque sabía que el templo debía ser el lugar sagrado de la presencia de Dios, donde el pueblo se prepararía para conocerlo a Él, el nuevo Templo.

La destrucción del templo de Herodes, arrasado en 70 d.C. por los romanos, fue una tragedia espantosa para Israel. Pero los cristianos judíos sabían que ese templo, centro de adoración y sacrificios, había sido sustituido por el nuevo Templo, Cristo resucitado y glorificado. En Jesús, Dios estaba presente entre su pueblo, y el sacrificio definitivo del Hijo reemplazaba la necesidad de ofrecer constantes sacrificios. Todo lo que Dios había hecho para preparar al pueblo llegaba a la consumación en su Hijo Jesús.

Es imprescindible ver que Cristo es la “nueva obra de Dios”, el nuevo comienzo de lo que Dios realiza en y para su pueblo, y que el Padre ha depositado en Cristo su infinito poder, que es mucho más fuerte que el poder humano, y su inagotable sabiduría, que es mucho más sabia que la sabiduría humana (1 Corintios 1,25).

Ahora bien, ¿comprendemos nosotros que todo el plan de Dios se cumple plenamente en la Persona de Cristo? ¿Vemos que Jesús es el cumplimiento de todas las promesas de Dios? Ojalá aceptemos que Cristo es el nuevo Templo de Dios, el único Camino, la única Verdad, la única Vida.

“Señor y Salvador nuestro, no permitas que el poder y la sabiduría de tu cruz sean motivo de tropiezo para nosotros, sino más bien, que nos hagan recordar que tu “locura” es más sabia que la “sabiduría” del hombre, y que tu “debilidad” es más fuerte que la “fortaleza” del hombre.”

Escogida con el permiso de *La Palabra Entre Nosotros*, Vol. 31, Número 4: Cuaresma 2012.

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Domingo 11	Éx 20:1-17 / 1 Cor 1:22-25 / Jn 2:13-25
<i>Tercer domingo de Cuaresma</i>	
Lunes 12	2 Re 5:1-15 / Lc 4:24-30
Martes 13	Dn 3:25,34-43 / Mt 18:21-35
Miércoles 14	Deut 4:1,5-9 / Mt 5:17-19
Jueves 15	Jer 7:23-28 / Lc 11:14-23
Viernes 16	Os 14:2-10 / Mt 12:28-34
Sábado 17	Os 6:1-6 / Lc 18:9-14
Domingo 18	2 Crón 36:14-16,19-23 / Ef 2:4-10 / Jn 3:14-21
<i>Cuarto domingo de Cuaresma</i>	

COME—LET US ADORE HIM!

You are invited to the Cathedral for our monthly evening of Eucharistic Adoration on Monday, **March 19** from 6 to 7pm. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available during the hour.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

LIVING LENT 2012 ✝

SCRUTINIES FOR THE ELECT

The season of Lent coincides with the Purification and Enlightenment phase of the RCIA process. During this phase, our members of the Elect and our Candidates are called to intensify their prayer lives and discern more deeply their desire to join the Church. As the larger parish community, we are called to help them develop their relationship with God and the Church and to pray for them. The celebration of the Scrutinies, which will be at the 11:30am Mass on the third, fourth, and fifth Sundays of Lent, **March 11, 18, and 25**, is an important part of the Purification and Enlightenment phase. During the Scrutinies with our Elect, we look within ourselves to find anything that keeps us from Christ and then look to Christ to heal those weaknesses and to strengthen us as we face further temptations. Please keep our eight members of the Elect in your prayers.

WEDNESDAY EVENING CONFESSIONS

This Lenten season, each Catholic parish in the Archdiocese of Washington and the Diocese of Arlington will have confessions available every Wednesday from 6:30 to 8pm. At St. Matthew's, Wednesday confessions will be heard in English and Spanish from 6:30 to 8pm in addition to our regularly scheduled confessions (weekdays, 11am-Noon and Saturdays, 4-5pm). Plan now to come this Wednesday, **March 14**, and experience forgiveness and reconciliation with the Father through the Son!

FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS & LENTEN MEAL TO BENEFIT NORTHWEST CENTER

The Stations of the Cross in the form adopted by Pope John Paul II will be prayed in English this Friday, **March 16** (and every Friday of Lent) at 6pm, immediately following the 5:30pm Mass. Join us afterwards for a Simple Lenten Meal in the North Conference Room—this week's meal will be organized by the Knights of Columbus, who will collect alms to benefit the Northwest Center. The speaker will be Kim Cook, Pregnancy Center Director. All are welcome for all or any part of this evening of prayer, fellowship and almsgiving!

SOLEMN GREGORIAN VESPERS

The Schola Cantorum of St. Matthew's Cathedral presents the Office of Vespers for Laetare Sunday, **March 18**, the Fourth Sunday of Lent, at 4pm. The Office will be sung entirely in Latin, in Gregorian chant and the Magnificat of Palestrina, with motets of Tomas Luis De Victoria, and Julio Dominguez. The liturgy will be presented according to the Roman *Liturgia Horarum*, complete with the censing of the altar during the singing of the Magnificat. Complete texts and translations will be provided. The annual celebration of Gregorian Vespers is one of the most beloved musical events at the Cathedral each year. Join us and deepen your Lenten experience with the timeless beauty of Gregorian chant! Contact: Tom Stehle, Pastoral Associate for Liturgy and Director of Music Ministries, at 202-587-5141 or tstehle@stmatthewscathedral.org.

FORTY DAYS FOR LIFE

Will you give an hour for life? 40 Days for Life needs you to pray, fast, and be a presence outside the downtown Planned Parenthood facility (1108 16th Street, NW). Join this national and international prayer campaign that has saved and transformed the lives of thousands of mothers, children, and even abortion industry workers. These 40 Days began **February 22** and will end **April 1**. To sign up for an hour, email 40daysforlifedc@gmail.com or visit www.40daysforlife.com/washington.

NEWS & NOTES

CHORAL CONCERT TONIGHT

Today, Sunday, **March 11**, the premier 40-member touring ensemble of Trinity University, conducted by Gary Seighman, will perform works by Ralph Vaughan Williams, Veljo Tormis, Francis Poulenc, Georg Schumann, Johannes Brahms, G.P. Palestrina, and others at 7:30pm in the Cathedral. Admission is free. All are welcome.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A LECTOR?

An orientation and training session for those wishing to become lectors at the Cathedral will be held Saturday, **March 24**, in the East Conference Room from 9:30am until 1pm. We welcome both registered parish members and "weekday parishioners"—members of other parishes who work downtown and attend weekday Masses at the Cathedral. Attendees also will be asked to audition in the Cathedral at a later date. Candidates who are invited to lector will be asked to commit to reading at Mass at least twice each month. To register, call the Rectory at 202-347-3215 x517 by Wednesday, **March 21**. We look forward to seeing you.

PIANO NEEDED

After years of nearly daily use, the piano in the choir rehearsal room is on its last legs. If you have a grand piano that is in fine playing condition and holds a tuning well, or if know someone who might, please contact Tom Stehle at 202-587-5141 or tstehle@stmatthewscathedral.org.

JUBILARIAN CELEBRATION

The annual celebration of marriage honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 50+ years will be held Sunday, **June 3** at 2pm, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Cardinal Wuerl will be the celebrant. To register from St. Matthew's, call 202-587-5143 by **April 12**.

CATHEDRAL CALENDAR

March 11 – March 18

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

The First Scrutiny of the Elect is celebrated at the 11:30am Mass.

The Cathedral Club meets at 1pm in the West Conference Room.

El Vía Crucis se rezará (en español) a las 2:15 de la tarde.

A C†YA mini-retreat is held in the Cathedral at 3pm.

Always Our Children meets at 3:30pm in the West Conference Room.

The Trinity University choir presents a choral concert in the Cathedral at 7:30pm.

MONDAY—The Book Club meets at 6:45pm in the West Conference Room

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

TUESDAY—The Communications &

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

Las Reflexiones de Cuaresma continúan hoy a las 7 de la tarde en el salón de conferencias del Oeste.

WEDNESDAY—A Lenten lecture is given at 12:45pm in the North Conference Room.

Confessions are held in English and Spanish from 6:30 to 8pm.

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

THURSDAY—The Lenten lecture is repeated at 7pm in the North Conference Room.

The Knights of Columbus meet at 7:30pm in the West Conference Room.

FRIDAY—**Stations of the Cross** are prayed at 6pm, followed by a Simple Lenten Meal served in the North Conference Room.

SATURDAY—A special lecture is given in the North Conference Room at 10:30am (see page 4).

SUNDAY—Día de reflexión espiritual se ofrece a las 8:30 de la mañana en el salón de conferencia del Norte para adultos y en el salón de conferencias del Este para niños.

The Second Scrutiny for the Elect is celebrated at the 11:30am Mass.

El Vía Crucis se rezará (en español) a las 2:15 de la tarde.

Laetare Vespers are held in the Cathedral at 4pm.

NOTICIAS DE LA PARROQUIA**CICLO DE CONFERENCIAS DE CUARESMA 2012**

Las reflexiones de Cuaresma de este año toman como base las Siete Palabras que Jesús pronunció desde la cruz; continúan este martes en el salón de conferencias del Oeste.

Semana 2: “MUJER AHÍ TIENES A TU HIJO”

“AHÍ TIENES A TU MADRE”

Martes **13 de marzo** a las 7:00 de la noche

CONFESIONES LOS MIERCOLES DE CUARESMA

En este tiempo de Cuaresma, la Catedral de San Mateo tendrá confesiones disponibles los miércoles de Cuaresma de 6:30 a 8 de la noche, tendremos confesiones en inglés y español, exceptuando el Miércoles de Ceniza y Miércoles Santo, además del horario regular de confesiones (lunes a viernes, 11-12 y sábados 4-5 de la tarde).

CLASES PARA**LA CONFIRMACIÓN DE ADULTOS**

Las personas adultas que deseen recibir el sacramento de la Confirmación el **27 de mayo**, día de Pentecostés, tienen que recibir unas clases que se ofrecerán los domingos 15, 22 y 29 de abril; 13 y 20 de mayo a las 10:30 de la mañana en el salón de conferencias del Oeste y tener la partida de bautismo vigente. Deben venir a la rectoría para inscribirse antes del **15 de marzo**. También se les invita al retiro de Cuaresma el domingo 18 de marzo de 8:30 de la mañana a 12:30 del mediodía.

EL VIA CRUCIS Y CENA QUE BENEFICIARÁ AL CENTRO DEL NOROESTE

El Vía Crucis, en la forma adaptada por el Papa Juan Pablo II, se rezará en inglés este viernes, **16 de marzo** a las 6:00 de la tarde, inmediatamente después de la misa de 5:30. Acompañenos después para una comida simple de Cuaresma servida en el salón de conferencias del Norte. Esta semana la cena será organizada por los Caballeros de Colón, las donaciones que se reciban beneficiarán al Centro del Noroeste; Kim Cook, director del centro dirá unas palabras acerca de la organización

DÍA DE REFLEXIÓN POR CUARESMA

Todos los miembros de la comunidad Hispana, están invitados a una mañana de reflexión espiritual, este **18 de marzo** de 8:30 a 12:30 del mediodía. El tema será: **Por sus llagas hemos sido sanados**. Este retiro se ofrece en el salón de conferencias del Norte para adultos y salón de conferencias del Este para niños.

ADORACIÓN AL SANTÍSIMO SACRAMENTO

Les invitamos el lunes **19 de marzo** 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.



FAITH FORMATION

BOOK CLUB: *JESUS OF NAZARETH (PART 2)*

All are welcome to join the St. Matthew's Book Club for their next meeting on Monday, **March 12** to discuss *Jesus of Nazareth (Part 2)* by Pope Benedict XVI. This book is the second installment in Pope Benedict's spiritual reflections on the life of Christ. In it, Pope Benedict focuses on the events that we now celebrate during Holy Week. The Book Club meets in the West Conference Room at 6:45pm. Please contact Paul Zummo at pzummo@gmail.com with 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, **March 14**. For more information, contact Heather Kinney at hkinney@stmatthewscathedral.org.

PORTRAITS OF DISCIPLESHIP IN SCRIPTURE

Bro. Albert Duggan, OP, one of our Dominican deacons, will give a talk on "The Beloved Disciple" on Saturday, **March 17** from 10:30 to 11:45am in the North Conference Room. Please join us as we reflect on the Gospel of St. John and his other writings and the essence of discipleship.

REGISTER NOW FOR

ADULT CONFIRMATION PREPARATION!

St. Matthew's offers adult Confirmation preparation in the weeks between Easter and Pentecost for *active, baptized Catholics who have received First Eucharist but not Confirmation*. The celebration of adult Confirmation occurs at a special Mass on Pentecost Sunday, which will be **May 27** (Memorial Day weekend). The preparation includes five sessions from 7 to 8:30pm on Thursdays, **April 19, 26 and May 3, 10, and 17** and a Saturday retreat on **May 19**. To register, pick up a registration packet in the Rectory or print it on the Cathedral website (www.stmatthewscathedral.org). Registration materials are due to Heather Kinney, Director of Faith Formation, in the Rectory by Friday, **March 23**. Questions? Contact Heather at hkinney@stmatthewscathedral.org.

CONGRATULATIONS & PRAYERS FOR DEACON ALBERT!

Congratulations to our Dominican seminarian, Bro. Albert Duggan, OP, who was ordained to the diaconate on Saturday, **March 10** and serves his first Mass at the Cathedral as a deacon on Sunday, **March 11** at 8:30am. You will see him regularly serving as a deacon at St. Matthew's, joining Bro. Augustine Reisenauer, OP, who will be ordained to the priesthood on **May 25**. Please keep them and all our deacons in your prayers.

EVANGELIZATION

PARISH SURVEY REMINDER

If you are participating in the survey on parish vitality but have not already responded, please take the time to give us your observations and input. The end date for the survey is **March 31**. We have been made aware of problems with some questions and ask that you do your best in responding. If you did not receive an email invitation and do wish to participate in the survey, please contact Deacon Merella at merella@wtu.edu. So far, over 200 parishioners have taken the survey. We look forward to your participation.

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

FR. GREENFIELD AT ST. HUGH'S 40 HOURS

Father Jim Greenfield will be the guest homilist **March 13 and 14** during 40 Hours Devotion at St. Hugh of Grenoble Parish (135 Crescent Rd., Greenbelt, MD). At 7pm both evenings there will be a Eucharistic Service of Prayer & Praise during which Fr. Greenfield will speak. All are welcome. Questions? Call 301-474-4322.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND THE HHS MANDATE

Jane Belford, Chancellor for the Archdiocese of Washington and Blessed Sacrament parishioner, will speak on the topic of Religious Freedom and the HHS Mandate on Thursday, **March 15** at 7:30pm in the Blessed Sacrament School Auditorium (3630 Quesada Street NW). For more information, contact Therese at 202-449-3989 or trecinella@blessedsacramentdc.org.

9TH ANNUAL "LIVE JESUS"

The Oblates of St. Francis de Sales invite you to the ninth annual "Live Jesus," a morning of Lenten reflection and renewal through the lens of Salesian spirituality, on Saturday, **March 17**, 8am to 12:30pm, at Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School in Washington, DC. The theme is "Hospitality of the Heart: Welcoming Our Friends and Our Enemies." Registration and continental breakfast begin at 8am, and Mass will be celebrated at 9am by Fr. Jim Greenfield, OSFS, Oblate Provincial. Freewill offerings will be gratefully accepted. Register at www.oblates.org.

MASS INTENTIONS**Sunday, March 11**

5:30pm (vigil) –

All Parishioners

7am – Jack Monteith

8:30am – Michael Sonk

10am – Mary Wade (living)

11:30am – Meg Elstner (living)

1pm – Dora Aguirre

5:30pm – Mario Devena

Monday, March 12

7am – Josephine Klug Kuhn

8am – Julie Bennett

12:10pm – Lisa Rollston (living)

5:30pm – Dena D'Michaelis (living)

Tuesday, March 13

7am – Rosalie Gerber

8am – Robert Hutson

12:10pm – Joseph & Elizabeth Conway

5:30pm – Polpilho Santos

Wednesday, March 14

7am – Katia & Peter Higgins (living)

8am – George V. Bork (living)

12:10pm – Eunice Kennedy Shriver &

Sargent Shriver

5:30pm – Joaquin Piedras Salgueiro

Thursday, March 15

7am – Mary & Alex Maas (living)

8am – Conrad Sabelino, Jr.

12:10pm – All Souls

5:30pm – Charlie Manley

Friday, March 16

7am – Michael McGrath

8am – John Kekeh

12:10pm – Edward J. Walsh

5:30am – Frantiska Lyskova & family
(living)**Saturday, March 17**

8am – Brooksie, Myrtle & Bessie Banks

12:10pm – Gloria Molina

5:30pm – Paco Pepe Irizarry

Sunday, March 18

7am – All Parishioners

8:30am – Msgr. Quinn

10am – Dorothy Rose Hiltgren

11:30am – Daniel Stevens (living)

1pm – Enrique Sosa

5:30pm – Christopher Hagman

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.

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

*For more information,
please contact
Msgr. Jameson.*

**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.

CATHEDRAL TOURS

Visitors are invited to schedule a guided tour of the Cathedral or to do a self-guided tour using the color brochures available at the inside entrance to the Cathedral. Guided 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 guided tour, contact us at 202-347-3215 x512 or 202-587-5143 or mhurley@stmatthewscathedral.org.

YOUNG ADULTS**CATHEDRAL YOUNG ADULTS****C†YA MINISTRY MEETING –****Sunday, March 25 – 4 to 5 PM –****Cathedral East Conference Room**

All are welcome to attend this meeting to discuss the C†YA ministry, share ideas, and plan upcoming activities. For more information, contact Carolyn at cwait.10@gmail.com or Jillian at jillian.mcmahon@gmail.com.

**C†YA SPRING KICKBALL TEAM –
Sundays, April 22 to June 17 – 2 to
3pm – the Washington Monument
(17th St NW & Constitution)**

Join the Cathedral Young Adults team in the WAKA DC Monument kickball league. The cost is \$65 per person, which covers a team shirt, equipment, park fees, and league party. No athletic ability required – we're just out to have fun! Contact co-captain Brandon at bjameshines@gmail.com for details on how to register.

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*.

Items may be purchased 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.



Lenten Lecture Series

Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle

PRAY ALL — WAYS

The three traditional pillars of Lenten observance are almsgiving, fasting, and prayer.

*In his First Letter to the Thessalonians, Saint Paul exhorts: “**Pray without ceasing**” (5:17).*

This year’s Lenten Lecture Series will focus on cultivating a richer attitude and practice of prayer in our daily lives.

Our Lenten Lecture Series continues this week with a talk on

PRAYING ALONE

This third talk of our series will address contemplative prayer as well as the teachings of the Christian Mystics on prayer and then offer instructions in a few practices.

Subsequent talks will explore other particular topics related to prayer.

Join us Wednesday, March 14 or Thursday, March 15

Our speaker is

Mr. Louis J. Milone (Director of Adult Faith Formation,
St. John the Baptist Catholic Community, Silver Spring MD).

Louis, or LJ, is a native of Long Island, NY. He also is the Co-Coordinator of Contemplative Outreach of the Metro Washington, DC Area, an organization which teaches the contemplative practice of Centering Prayer. He has a master’s degree in Pastoral Studies from Washington Theological Union. Christian Mysticism, contemplative prayer, and the transformation of consciousness are his major interests.

Wednesday lectures: 12:45pm to 1:45pm

Thursday lectures: 7pm to 8pm

All lectures will be held in the North Conference Room.

Follow the directional signs to the lectures. Lectures are free and open to the public. Join us for any or all.

No RSVP necessary.

Questions? Email hkinney@stmatthewscathedral.org or call 202-347-3215, x530.

Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle

1725 Rhode Island Avenue NW • Washington DC 20036

202-347-3215 • www.stmatthewscathedral.org

Metro: Red Line to Farragut North (L Street exit)

Parking: limited metered street parking or

public garage next to Cathedral

(\$10 per hour before 4pm-\$16 daily max or

\$5 flat fee after 4pm)

Complete series schedule available in Lenten brochure in pew racks

Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle
Office of Music Ministry

presents

solemn
gregorian
vespers

for Laetare Sunday

in Latin, according to the Liturgia Horarum

with motets by Victoria, Dominguez and Palestrina

featuring

The Schola Cantorum of St. Matthew's Cathedral

Thomas Stehle, director

Sunday, March 18, 2012, 4:00 p.m.

1725 Rhode Island Avenue NW

Washington, DC 20036

www.stmatthewscathedral.org

Open to the Public

A free-will offering will be collected.

Deepen your Lenten journey with the timeless beauty of Gregorian chant.

For more information, please contact the Office of Music Ministry

at 202/587-5141



St. Matthew's Cathedral Adopt-A-Family Program Easter Gift Card Collection 2012

The Adopt-A-Family Program of the St. Matthew's Social Justice & Community Services Committee is collecting grocery store gift cards to distribute to our adopted families who are in need this Easter season. We are collecting **\$20-\$25 Giant or Safeway gift cards** in the envelopes attached to copies of a flier like this one, which you may pick up from the back of the Cathedral starting on March 10th. You may send your donation to St. Matthew's by mail or by leaving it with the volunteers who will be collecting them at the entrance of the Cathedral after the Saturday vigil Mass and Sunday Mass on **March 17th and 18th, as well as March 24th and 25th**. Please be as generous as possible, as there is great need for assistance. We would like to receive the gift cards *no later than March 26th*.

If you prefer, you are welcome to make a financial donation. Simply write a check to St. Matthew's Cathedral with "Adopt-A-Family" on the note line, place it in the attached envelope, and drop in the collection basket or mail it/turn it in to the Rectory. Any donations that we receive above what is needed for the families at Easter time will be used to assist the families with grocery gift cards and other emergency assistance during the year.

Your support will allow families in need to enjoy a hearty meal this Easter. Thank you very much for your generosity.

For more information, please contact Father Evelio Menjivar, Social Justice & Community Services Director at 202-347-3215 ext. 536 or at emenjivar@stmatthewscathedral.org, or Norma Canedo, Social Concerns Facilitator, at 202-347-3215 ext. 552 or at ncanedo@stmatthewscathedral.org.

"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." (Mt. 25:40)



Programa Adopte una Familia Catedral de San Mateo Colecta de Tarjetas para la Pascua 2012

El programa Adopte-Una familia de los comités de Justicia Social y Servicios Comunitarios de San Mateo estarán recogiendo tarjetas de tiendas de comida para distribuir las a nuestras familias adoptadas quienes tienen necesidad en esta época de Pascua. Nosotros estamos recogiendo tarjetas de \$20-\$25 de los supermercados Safeway o Giant, en los sobres adjuntos a la copia de un inserto como este, el cual usted puede recoger en la entrada de la Catedral empezando el 10 de marzo. Usted puede enviar su donación a San Mateo por correo o dejándola con los voluntarios quienes estarán en la entrada de la Catedral después de la misa de Vigilia el sábado y domingo 17-18 de marzo al igual que el 24-25 de marzo. Por favor sea tan generoso como le sea posible, ya que existe una gran necesidad de su asistencia. Nos gustaría recibir las tarjetas *a más tardar el 26 de marzo*.

Si usted prefiere, puede hacer una contribución financiera. Simplemente escriba un cheque a nombre de la Catedral de San Mateo y anote “Adopte una Familia” en la línea para notas y déptelo en la cesta de la colecta o puede enviarlo por correo o traerlo en persona a la rectoría. Todas las donaciones en exceso de lo que es necesario para las familias durante las Pascua, será usado para asistir a las familias con tarjeta y otra ayuda de emergencia durante el año.

Su apoyo le permitirá a las familias necesitadas a disfrutar de una cena substancial esta Pascua. ¡Muchas gracias por su generosidad!

Para más información puede contactar: Padre Evelio Menjivar, director de Justicia Social y Servicios comunitario al 202-347-3215 x536 o al emenjivar@stmatthewscathedral.org, o Norma Canedo, Facilitadora de Intereses Sociales, al 202-347-3215 x552 o al ncanedo@stmatthewscathedral.org.

“Amen, En verdad les digo que, cuando lo hicieron con alguno de los más pequeños de estos mis hermanos, me lo hicieron a mí” (Mt. 25:40)



Office of the President

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Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan
Archbishop of New York
President

March 2, 2012

My brother bishops,

Twice in recent weeks, I have written you to express my gratitude for our unity in faith and action as we move forward to protect our *religious freedom* from unprecedented intrusion from a government bureau, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). I remain deeply grateful to you for your determined resolve, to the Chairmen of our committees directly engaged in these efforts - Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, Cardinal Donald Wuerl, Bishop Stephen Blaire and Bishop William Lori -who have again shown themselves to be such excellent leaders during these past weeks, and to all our staff at the USCCB who work so diligently under the direction of the Conference leadership.

How fortunate that we as a body have had opportunities during our past plenary assemblies to manifest our strong unity in defense of *religious freedom*. We rely on that unity now more than ever as HHS seeks to define what constitutes church ministry and how it can be exercised. We will once again dedicate ample time at our Administrative Committee meeting next week, and at the June Plenary Assembly, to this critical subject. We will continue to listen, discuss, deliberate and act.

Thank you, brothers, for the opportunity to provide this update to you and the dioceses you serve. Many of you have expressed your thanks for what we have achieved together in so few weeks, especially the data provided and the leadership given by brother bishops, our conference staff and Catholic faithful. And you now ask the obvious question, “What’s next?” Please allow me to share with you now some thoughts about events and efforts to date and where we might go next.

Since January 20, when the final, restrictive HHS Rule was first announced, we have become certain of two things: *religious freedom* is under attack, and we will not cease our struggle to protect it. We recall the words of our Holy Father Benedict XVI to our brother bishops on their recent *ad limina* visit: “Of particular concern are certain attempts being made to limit that most cherished of American freedoms, the freedom of religion.” Bishop Stephen Blaire and Bishop William Lori, with so many others, have admirably kept us focused on this one priority of protecting *religious freedom*. We have made it clear in no uncertain terms to the government that we are not at peace with its invasive attempt to curtail the *religious freedom* we cherish as Catholics and Americans. We did not ask for this fight, but we will not run from it.

As pastors and shepherds, each of us would prefer to spend our energy engaged in and promoting the works of mercy to which the Church is dedicated: healing the sick, teaching our youth, and helping the poor. Yet, precisely because we are pastors and shepherds, we recognize that each of the ministries entrusted to us by Jesus is now in jeopardy due to this bureaucratic intrusion into the internal life of the church. You and I both know well that we were doing those extensive and noble works rather well without these radical new constrictive and forbidding mandates. Our Church has a long tradition of effective partnership with government and the

wider community in the service of the sick, our children, our elders, and the poor at home and abroad, and we sure hope to continue it.

Of course, we maintained from the start that this is not a “Catholic” fight alone. I like to quote as often as possible a nurse who emailed me, “I’m not so much mad about all this as a Catholic, but as an American.” And as we recall, a Baptist minister, Governor Mike Huckabee, observed, “In this matter, we’re all Catholics.” No doubt you have heard numerous statements just like these. We are grateful to know so many of our fellow Americans, especially our friends in the ecumenical and interreligious dialogue, stand together in this important moment in our country. They know that this is not just about sterilization, abortifacients, and chemical contraception. It’s about *religious freedom*, the sacred right of any Church to define its own teaching and ministry.

When the President announced on January 20th that the choking mandates from HHS would remain, not only we bishops and our Catholic faithful, but people of every faith, or none at all, rallied in protest. The worry that we had expressed -- that such government control was contrary to our deepest political values -- was eloquently articulated by constitutional scholars and leaders of every creed.

On February 10th, the President announced that the insurance providers would have to pay the bill, instead of the Church’s schools, hospitals, clinics, or vast network of charitable outreach having to do so. He considered this “concession” adequate. Did this help? We wondered if it would, and you will recall that the Conference announced at first that, while withholding final judgment, we would certainly give the President’s proposal close scrutiny. Well, we did -- and as you know, we are as worried as ever.

For one, there was not even a nod to the deeper concerns about trespassing upon *religious freedom*, or of modifying the HHS’ attempt to define the how and who of our ministry. Two, since a big part of our ministries are “self-insured,” we still ask how this protects us. We’ll still have to pay and, in addition to that, we’ll still have to maintain in our policies practices which our Church has consistently taught are grave wrongs in which we cannot participate. And what about forcing individual believers to pay for what violates their *religious freedom* and conscience? We can’t abandon the hard working person of faith who has a right to *religious freedom*. And three, there was still no resolution about the handcuffs placed upon renowned Catholic charitable agencies, both national and international, and their exclusion from contracts just because they will not refer victims of human trafficking, immigrants and refugees, and the hungry of the world, for abortions, sterilization, or contraception. In many ways, the announcement of February 10 solved little and complicated a lot. We now have more questions than answers, more confusion than clarity.

So the important question arises: What to do now? How can we bishops best respond, especially united in our common pastoral ministry as an Episcopal Conference? For one, under the ongoing leadership of Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, Cardinal Donald Wuerl, Bishop Blaire and Bishop Lori we will continue our strong efforts of advocacy and education. In the coming weeks the Conference will continue to provide you, among other things, with catechetical resources on the significance of *religious freedom* to the Church and the Church’s teaching on it from a doctrinal and moral perspective. We are developing liturgical aids to encourage prayer in our efforts and plans on how we can continue to voice our public and strong opposition to this infringement on our freedom. And the Ad Hoc Committee on Religious Liberty, that has served

the Conference so well in its short lifespan, will continue its extraordinary work in service to this important cause.

Two, we will ardently continue to seek a rescinding of the suffocating mandates that require us to violate our moral convictions, or at least insist upon a much wider latitude to the exemptions so that churches can be free of the new, rigidly narrow definition of church, minister and ministry that would prevent us from helping those in need, educating children and healing the sick, no matter their religion.

In this regard, the President invited us to “work out the wrinkles.” We have accepted that invitation. Unfortunately, this seems to be stalled: the White House Press Secretary, for instance, informed the nation that the mandates are a *fait accompli* (and, embarrassingly for him, commented that we bishops have always opposed Health Care anyway, a charge that is scurrilous and insulting, not to mention flat out wrong. Bishop Blaire did a fine job of setting the record straight.) The White House already notified Congress that the dreaded mandates are now published in the Federal Registry “without change.” The Secretary of HHS is widely quoted as saying, “Religious insurance companies don’t really design the plans they sell based on their own religious tenets.” That doesn’t bode well for their getting a truly acceptable “accommodation.”

At a recent meeting between staff of the bishops’ conference and the White House staff, our staff members asked directly whether the broader concerns of *religious freedom*—that is, revisiting the straight-jacketing mandates, or broadening the maligned exemption—are all off the table. They were informed that they are. So much for “working out the wrinkles.” Instead, they advised the bishops’ conference that we should listen to the “enlightened” voices of accommodation, such as the recent, hardly surprising yet terribly unfortunate editorial in *America*. The White House seems to think we bishops simply do not know or understand Catholic teaching and so, taking a cue from its own definition of *religious freedom*, now has nominated its own handpicked official Catholic teachers.

We will continue to accept invitations to meet with and to voice our concerns to anyone of any party, for this is hardly partisan, who is willing to correct the infringements on *religious freedom* that we are now under. But as we do so, we cannot rely on off the record promises of fixes without deadlines and without assurances of proposals that will concretely address the concerns in a manner that does not conflict with our principles and teaching.

Congress might provide more hope, since thoughtful elected officials have proposed legislation to protect what should be so obvious: *religious freedom*. Meanwhile, in our recent debate in the senate, our opponents sought to obscure what is really a *religious freedom* issue by maintaining that abortion inducing drugs and the like are a “woman’s health issue.” We will not let this deception stand. Our commitment to seeking legislative remedies remains strong. And it is about remedies to the assault on *religious freedom*. Period. (By the way, the Church hardly needs to be lectured about health care for women. Thanks mostly to our Sisters, the Church is the largest private provider of health care for women and their babies in the country.) Bishop William Lori, Chairman of our *Ad Hoc Committee on Religious Liberty*, stated it well in a recent press release: “We will build on this base of support as we pursue legislation in the House of Representatives, urge the Administration to change its course on this issue, and explore our legal rights under the Constitution and the Religious Freedom Restoration Act.”

Perhaps the courts offer the most light. In the recent *Hosanna-Tabor* ruling, the Supreme Court unanimously defended the right of a Church to define its own ministry and services, a dramatic rebuff to the administration, apparently unheeded by the White House. Thus, our bishops' conference, many individual religious entities, and other people of good will are working with some top-notch law firms who feel so strongly about this that they will represent us *pro-bono*. In the upcoming days, you will hear much more about this encouraging and welcome development.


Given this climate, we have to prepare for tough times. Some, like *America* magazine, want us to cave-in and stop fighting, saying this is simply a policy issue; some want us to close everything down rather than comply (In an excellent article, Cardinal Francis George wrote that the administration apparently wants us to "give up for Lent" our schools, hospitals, and charitable ministries); some, like Bishop Robert Lynch wisely noted, wonder whether we might have to engage in civil disobedience and risk steep fines; some worry that we'll have to face a decision between two ethically repugnant choices: subsidizing immoral services or no longer offering insurance coverage, a road none of us wants to travel.

Brothers, we know so very well that *religious freedom* is our heritage, our legacy and our firm belief, both as loyal Catholics and Americans. There have been many threats to *religious freedom* over the decades and years, but these often came from without. This one sadly comes from within. As our ancestors did with previous threats, we will tirelessly defend the timeless and enduring truth of *religious freedom*.

I look forward to our upcoming Administrative Board Meeting and our June Plenary Assembly when we will have the chance to discuss together these important issues and our way forward in addressing them. And I renew my thanks to you for your tremendous, fraternal support and your welcome observations in this critical effort to protect our *religious freedom*.

With prayerful best wishes, I am

Fraternally in Christ,

— + 

Timothy Cardinal Dolan
Archbishop of New York
President, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops