

TODAY'S READINGS

It is you who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer a kingdom on you. (Luke 22:28-29)

Today begins Holy Week. This week we have the great privilege of standing with Jesus as he undergoes his passion.

Like the Twelve, we may not always do this perfectly. We may fall asleep in the garden instead of keeping vigil. We may strike out clumsily with a sword and miss the real foe. We may follow at a distance and even pretend that we don't know him. Maybe we will join him only at the last moment, like the "good thief," who recognized Jesus' innocence and asked to be remembered in his kingdom. But no matter how successful we are, Jesus remains determined to do his Father's will—all because of his love for us.

Today we read the story of Jesus' passion from beginning to end. But as the week unfolds, we can relive these events more slowly, almost in real time. On Holy Thursday, we join Jesus at table and as he washes his apostles' feet, institutes the priesthood, and offers the first Eucharist. Late into the night, we can keep watch with him in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. On Good Friday, we can accompany him along the way of the cross and stand by him on Calvary. At the Easter Vigil, we can celebrate his victory over death as we light a new fire and rejoice as our new brothers and sisters are baptized and received into the Church.

Don't wait for the last minute! Start walking with the Lord today. Try to celebrate each liturgy with love and gratitude. Remember, Jesus is offering you nothing less than his kingdom. This is far more than the paradise he promised the good thief after death. It includes intimacy with Jesus right here, right now. Those who stay close to him will find the grace to transform suffering, the energy to live a new life, and the best comrades in the world.

"Jesus, thank you for enduring so much just to win our salvation. Help me to stand with you all week long."

Taken from *The Word Among Us*, Lent 2013, Vol. 32, Number 3: Used with permission.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday 24th Lk 19:28-40 / Phil 2:6-11 / Lk 22:14—23:56

Passion Sunday

Monday 25th Is 42:1-7 / Jn 12:1-11

Monday of Holy Week

Tuesday 26th Is 49:1-6 / Jn 13:21-33,36-38

Tuesday of Holy Week

Wednesday 27th Is 50:4-9 / Mt 26:14-25

Wednesday of Holy Week

Thursday 28th Ex 12:1-8,11-14 / Jn 13:1-15

Holy Thursday

Friday 29th Is 52:13—53:12 / Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9 / Jn 18:1-19:42

Good Friday of the Lord's Passion

Saturday 30th, Holy Saturday

Gn 1:1-2:2 / Gn 22:1-18 / Ex 14:15-15:1 / Is 54:5-14 / Is 55:1-11 / Bar 3:9-15,32—4:4 / Ez 36:16-17a,18-28 / Rom 6:3-11 / Lk 124:1-12

Sunday 31st Act 10:34,37-43 / Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6-8 / Jn 20:1-9

The Resurrection of the Lord

LAS LECTURAS DE HOY

No hay absolutamente nadie, por débil que sea, a quien se le niegue participar en la victoria de la cruz. La sagrada Sangre de Cristo ha extinguido la llama de la espada que impedía el acceso al árbol de la vida (Génesis 3,24); la antiquísima noche de pecado ha dado paso a la luz verdadera y a los cristianos se les invita a participar de las delicias del paraíso. Todos los que han nacido de nuevo ven ante sí el camino abierto para regresar a su verdadera patria, de la cual habían sido desterrados.

La verdadera veneración de la pasión del Señor significa fijar los ojos del corazón en Jesús crucificado y reconocer en Él nuestra propia humanidad. Al tomar nuestra naturaleza humana sin dejar de ser Dios, Cristo no dejó a ningún miembro del género humano sin participar de su infinita misericordia. ¿Quién no comparte una naturaleza común con Cristo si ha recibido a Aquel que tomó nuestra naturaleza y ha nacido de nuevo en el Espíritu por cuyo poder Cristo fue concebido? Fue esta naturaleza la que tenía que ser curada de sus antiguas heridas y purificada de la contaminación del pecado.

Así, pues, cuando seguimos por la senda de sus mandamientos y no nos avergonzamos de reconocer el precio que Cristo pagó por nuestra salvación en un cuerpo inferior, nosotros también hemos de resucitar para compartir su gloria. La promesa que nos hizo se cumplirá sin duda alguna: "Si alguien se declara a mi favor delante de los hombres, yo también me declararé a favor de él delante de mi Padre que está en el cielo" (Mateo 10,32).

"Dios misericordioso, fuente y origen de nuestra salvación, haz que, mientras dure nuestra vida aquí en la tierra, te alabemos constantemente y podamos así participar un día en la alabanza eterna del cielo. Por nuestro Señor Jesucristo. Amén."

Escogida con el permiso de *La Palabra Entre Nosotros*, Vol. 32, Número 2: Cuaresma 2013.

HOLY WEEK

See the complete Holy Week schedule in today's flyer. Penn Parking Garage next to the Cathedral will offer extended hours for parking for the Chrism Mass, Tenebræ and the Easter Vigil.

CHRISM MASS - The Chrism Mass for the Archdiocese of Washington will be celebrated at St. Matthew's Cathedral on Monday, **March 25** at 7pm. **Donald Cardinal Wuerl** will be the celebrant at this very special Mass during which priests of the Archdiocese will renew their ordination promises and the sacramental oils for the year will be blessed. The Cathedral will close after the 12:10pm Mass and reopen at 6pm. Come to worship God and pray for our priests!

HOLY WEEK CONFESSIONS – *"The whole power of the sacrament ... consists in restoring us to God's grace and joining us with him in an intimate friendship."* (CCC, 1468)

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at the Penance Service on Tuesday of Holy Week (see the flyer) and as follows:

11am - Noon—Monday of Holy Week, Wednesday of Holy Week, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday (no Confessions at regularly scheduled time of 4-5pm on Holy Saturday).

6:15 - 7:15pm—Wednesday of Holy Week (Confessions before the 7:30pm Tenebræ service).

TENEBRAE – On Wednesday of Holy Week, **March 27** at 7:30pm, join us for the Tenebrae Service, a form of the traditional Liturgy of the Hours. The Cathedral Schola Cantorum will lead the assembly in the singing of psalms and canticles and will chant the traditional Lamentations of Jeremiah. Following each of the psalms, choral responsories will be sung by the entire Schola, including *Timor et Tremor* (Fear and Trembling) and *Vinea Me Electa* (O My Chosen Vineyard) by Francis Poulenc, and two recently composed evocative chant-based compositions—one by Paul Nicholson, *Velum Templi* (The Veil of the Temple was Torn) and another by Pawel Lukaszewski, *Memento Mei, Domine* (Remember Me, Lord).

The Cathedral Lectors will proclaim two readings from the Letter to the Hebrews followed by an ancient homily by a 4th century bishop, St Epiphanius of Cyprus.

While the 15 candles of the hearse or candelabra are gradually extinguished throughout the service, the traditional *Strepitus* is sounded in the total darkness created when the Paschal candle is taken from the sanctuary, recalling Christ death.

The entire liturgy is sung without accompaniment, indicating the sober and solemn character of the period of the church's liturgical life that we will enter over the next three days. Come to experience this unique and rarely celebrated ancient rite.

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION – Please help support our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land by giving to the special Good Friday Collection. This Pontifical Collection allows the Franciscans and others to continue caring for Christianity's holiest sites and for God's people in the Holy Land. Please be generous!

FAITH IN ACTION

FOLLOWING POPE FRANCIS' LEAD – In taking the name Francis after St. Francis of Assisi, our Holy Father explained, "Francis was a man of peace, a man of poverty, a man who loved and protected creation. ... How I would love a Church that is poor and for the poor!" Pope Francis places before us Jesus' closeness to and love for the poor.

At St. Matthew's we care for the poor through our Homeless Ministry. Every Monday morning a group of hardy and cheerful volunteers gathers at 7:30am to set up the West Conference room to welcome about 60 adults—mostly men and a few women. Our guests are a diverse group, and like all of us, in need of physical and spiritual nourishment to start the day. They are served breakfast donated by other volunteers and local businesses, including Whole Foods and Bertucci's. Each guest receives a bag containing new underwear, socks and toiletries, and a lunch prepared by yet other volunteers. The regular program concludes with a lively discussion of the Gospel, usually led by our Parochial Vicar, Fr. Evelio. Guests and volunteers depart around 10am, ready for the day ahead.

During the year, volunteers from our parish and surrounding community, including Brooks Brothers and the nonprofit Gifts for the Homeless, provide additional support through our winter coat drive and new clothing for the Adopt-A-Family program. Throughout the year, volunteers and Cathedral staff try to meet other immediate and long-term needs of individual guests, either directly or through appropriate referrals.

St. Matthew's Homeless Ministry program requires and receives broad support from parishioners, a clear manifestation of the commitment to the values of Catholic social justice. The volunteers and contributors are unanimous in their gratitude for the opportunity to serve, and in the sentiment that what they receive far exceeds what they give. Should you wish to become a part of or assist in any way with this ministry, please contact Jim Walsh at stmatthm@gmail.com.

CELEBRATING & DEFENDING MARRIAGE

NATIONAL MARCH FOR MARRIAGE – As Catholics we know that marriage is a sacrament through which God blesses the union of husband and wife with grace. It brings men and women together to bless and sanctify one another, serve each other mutually in love and become more united in love with an openness to conceiving and raising children. Marriage is a natural way of being in relationship, based on natural law, fostering trust, fidelity, commitment, and cooperation between a man and woman for the good of humanity



On Tuesday, **March 26**, the U. S. Supreme Court will begin hearing oral arguments in two separate cases (*Hollingsworth v. Perry* and *Windsor v. United States*) that could decide the future of marriage as the union between one man and one woman within the U. S. The National Organization for Marriage has organized a National March for Marriage to coincide with this occasion to stand up for marriage, family, and religious liberty. Join friends and supporters who will gather on the National Mall (between 10th Street and 12th Street NW and between Madison Drive NW and Jefferson Drive SW), and at 9:30am will march to the Supreme Court. Marchers will return to the National Mall for an 11am rally with live music and speakers.

The U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life, the Youth and Subcommittee on the Promotion and Defense of Marriage and the Archdiocese of Washington are encouraging participation in the National March for Marriage, calling it a "significant opportunity to promote and defend marriage and the good of the nation, to pray for our Supreme Court Justices, and to stand in solidarity with people of good will" at a "decisive time for marriage in our country." For more information, visit www.MarriageMarch.org or www.Facebook.com/MarchForMarriage, or call 888-894-3604.

JUST MARRIED? – St. Matthew's "JustMarried" group brings together newly married couples (within three years) for fellowship and service projects. Check next weekend's bulletin for details on a gathering on Thursday, **April 11** at the Cathedral.

MARRIAGE JUBILARIANS – The annual Jubilarian celebration of marriage honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 50+ years will be held Sunday, **June 16** at 2pm, at the Basilica of the National Shrine. Cardinal Wuerl will be the celebrant. To register from St. Matthew's, call 202-587-5143 by **April 12**.

BLESSING OF ENGAGED COUPLES – On Sunday, **April 28** Msgr. Jameson and other St. Matthew's clergy will confer a blessing of engaged couples at the 11:30am Mass. All engaged couples are invited to receive the blessing. To participate, email Reply@stmatthewscathedral.org.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE – Couples who are interested in celebrating the Sacrament of Marriage at the Cathedral are encouraged to visit the parish website to review our guidelines for weddings. The next step is to call the Rectory at 202-347-3215 and ask for the priest of your choice or the priest on duty, who can speak to you about marriage preparation and the possibility of scheduling your wedding 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.

HEALTH CARE CONSCIENCE RIGHTS

On March 4, 2013, Representative Diane Black introduced the Health Care Conscience Rights Act (H.R. 940) to protect religious liberty and conscience rights in health care particularly with regard to the HHS Mandate.

Cardinal Sean O' Malley, Chairman of the Committee on Pro-Life Activities for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, recently stated, "Protection for conscience rights in health care is of especially great importance to the Catholic church ... allow[ing] us to fulfill our obligation to serve others, without compromising our religious or moral convictions." Otherwise, "a failure to provide clear and enforceable protection for a right of conscience could undermine Americans' access to quality health care."

Please call your congressional members in support of the Health Care Conscience Rights Act or the inclusion of its policies within must-pass legislation. To reach them, call the U.S. Capitol switchboard at 202-224-3121. Additional contact information can be found at www.senate.gov and www.house.gov.

For more information, visit www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/religious-liberty/conscience-protection/.

MASS INTENTIONS

March 24– 31

Sunday, March 24

7am – Ricardina & Fausto Rios
8:30am – Marcosa & Dominador Cancio
10am – Robert Bork
11:30am – Frantiska Lyskova & family (living)
1pm – Todos los Feligreses
5:30pm – Christopher William Atwood

Monday, March 25

7am – Margie Sullivan
8am – Joseph & Elizabeth Conway
12:10pm – Vincenta Jayme Matzen

Tuesday, March 26

7am – Dee Roberge
8am – Pope Francis (living)
5:30pm – Paula Beale

Wednesday, March 27

7am – Brigitte & Nicole Kekeh
8am – Juan Casabal Rosas
12:10pm – Michael Juhasz
5:30pm – Hung Viet Mai

Thursday, March 28

12:10pm – Angela Annett
5:30pm – Maria Catarina Thanh Mgyuen

Sunday, March 31

7am – Patricia Casson
8:30am – Margaret Cahill Hurley
10am – Joseph & Carol Pruncal
11:30am – Joseph Le
1pm – Hugo Galindo (living)
5:30pm – Julius Egoego NWA

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.

FAITH FORMATION

THINKING ABOUT BECOMING CATHOLIC? – For those who are thinking about becoming Catholic, St. Matthew's offers Inquiry, an ongoing conversation about the faith, on the second Wednesday of the month from 6:30 to 7:30pm in the East Conference Room. Inquiry is the first step for those who are discerning their commitment to full initiation in the Catholic Church. The next Inquiry will be Wednesday, **April 10**. Contact: Heather Kinney at hkinney@stmatthewscathedral.org.

REGISTER NOW FOR ADULT CONFIRMATION PREPARATION! – Each spring during the Easter season, St. Matthew's offers adult Confirmation preparation for active, baptized Catholics who already have received their First Eucharist. Preparation includes four Thursday evenings (**April 11, 18, 25 & May 2**) and one Saturday (**May 4**). The celebration of adult Confirmation in 2013 will occur at a special Mass on Ascension Sunday, **May 12**. ***The priority registration deadline has passed, so please register right away if you wish to be confirmed this year!*** Registration forms are available in the Cathedral rectory and on the parish website. Contact: Heather Kinney (contact info above).

NEWS AND NOTES

DECORATORS NEEDED! – On Holy Saturday, **March 30** we will gather to decorate the Cathedral for Easter. We need volunteers from 9:30am until 11am to prepare flowers and other decorations. There is no need to sign up in advance—just come!

EASTER FLOWER OFFERING – Each year we try to decorate the Cathedral for Easter in a way that truly reflects the noble simplicity of that holy season. To do so again this year, we ask for your support. Please use the envelopes marked "Flower Offering" located in the pews. Thank you for your generosity.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE – On Easter Monday, **April 1** and on DC Emancipation Day, Tuesday, **April 16**, the Rectory offices will be closed. On both days, the Cathedral will open at 7:30am and close at 1pm, Masses will be celebrated at 8am and 12:10pm, and there will be no Confessions.

CATHEDRAL † YOUNG ADULTS

C†YA FOR SUPPER – **Holy Thursday, March 28 – 7pm – Scion (2100 P Street NW / Dupont)** – All young adults, friends, and fellow foodies are welcome to join the Young Adults for one of our monthly suppers! This month we'll share contemporary American cuisine and upscale comfort food at Scion. If you're attending the 5:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper, meet inside the Cathedral entrance afterward and we'll walk over together. If not, meet us at Scion! Contact Carolyn at cwait.10@gmail.com for more information and to RSVP.

THEOLOGY ON TAP – **Tuesdays, April 2, 9, 23 & 30 and May 7 – 6pm (happy hour) / 7 PM (talk) – Buffalo Billiards (1330 19th Street NW / Dupont)** – The Archdiocese's Office of Young Adult Ministry is bringing back Theology on Tap at a new location. Join young adults from St. Matthew's and around the city for food, drinks, fellowship, great speakers, and discussions on topics ranging from faith and entrepreneurship to media and the Church to Cardinal Wuerl's experience at the conclave! Learn more at [Facebook.com/ DCYoungAdult](https://www.facebook.com/DCYoungAdult), and contact Jonathan at yam@adw.org with questions.

NOTICIAS DE LA PARROQUIA

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Domingo 24 Lk 19:28-40 / Phil 2:6-11 /
Palm Sunday the Lord's Passion Lk 22:14—23:56

Lunes 25 Is 42:1-7 / Jn 12:1-11
Lunes Santo

Martes 26 Is 49:1-6 / Jn 13:21-33,36-38
Martes Santo

Miércoles 27 Is 50:4-9 / Mt 26:14-25
Miércoles Santo

Jueves 28 Éx 12:1-8,11-14 / 1 Cor 11:23-26 /
Jueves Santo Jn 13:1-15

Viernes 29 Is 52:13—53:12 / Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9 /
Viernes Santo Jn 18:1-19:42

Sábado 30, Sábado de Gloria

Gn 1:1-2:2 / Gn 22:1-18 / Éx 14:15-15:1 / Is 54:5-14 /
Is 55:1-11 / Bar 3:9-15,32-4:4 / Ez 36:16-17a,18-28 /
Rom 6:3-11 / Lk 24:1-12

Domingo 31 He 10:34.37-43 / Col 3:1-4 / Jn 20:1-9
Domingo de Pascua de la Resurrección del Señor

“VUELVE A CASA PARA PASCUA” – En el sacramento de la confesión, nuestros pecados son perdonados por Dios y renovamos la pureza de nuestro bautismo. Les invitamos a que experimenten el amor de Cristo a través del Sacramento de la Confesión el cual es una forma muy apropiada para expresar el arrepentimiento y la conversión desde el corazón mismo. Por ello y debido a que estamos en el tiempo de Cuaresma, el martes **26 de marzo**, ofreceremos un servicio comunitario a las 12:10 del mediodía. Más de 15 sacerdotes, incluyendo sacerdotes de habla hispana y otros idiomas estarán disponibles. Reconozcamos que todos somos pecadores y necesitamos preparar nuestros corazones en esta Cuaresma.

CONFESIONES EN SEMANA SANTA – Aquí en San Mateo, además del horario regular de confesiones (lunes – viernes, 11-12 y sábados 4-5 de la tarde) y el Servicio Comunal de Penitencia el martes 26, a las 12 del mediodía con múltiples confesores, **tendremos también confesiones en ambos idiomas: inglés y español, este Miércoles Santo de 6:15 a 7:15 de la tarde seguida por el servicio de Tenebrae.**

COLECTA DEL VIERNES SANTO – Las noticias diarias nos recuerdan de la violencia y la inestabilidad que azota el Medio Oriente, pero rara vez escuchamos de la comunidad cristiana de allí, una comunidad que lucha por permanecer en la tierra donde nació Cristo, murió y resucitó. Por favor apoyen a nuestros hermanos y hermanas en la Tierra Santa, en esta colecta especial del Viernes Santo. Esta colecta Pontificia permite a los

franciscanos y otros, continuar el cuidado de los edificios o lugares sagrados del cristianismo y para el pueblo de Dios en Tierra Santa. ¡Por favor sean generosos con su apoyo!

OFRENDA DE FLORES DE SEMANA SANTA – Cada año hacemos lo posible para decorar la Catedral en una forma que refleje la simplicidad de Semana Santa. Para hacerlo de nuevo este año, se les pide que nos apoyen con su generosidad. Por favor use los sobres marcados "Flower Offering" localizados en los bancos. Queremos que la Catedral esté bien adornada, por lo tanto, cualquier asistencia que den para la decoración es apreciada.

PRÓXIMAMENTE – El lunes de Pascua **1 de abril** y el martes **16 de abril** día de la Emancipación de DC, las oficinas de la rectoría estarán cerradas. La Catedral abrirá a las 7:30 de la mañana y cerrará a la 1 de la tarde. Se celebrarán las misas de 8 de la mañana y 12:10 del mediodía; no habrá confesiones y las oficinas de la rectoría estarán cerradas.

MISA ANUAL DE JUBILEO MATRIMONIAL – Donald Cardenal Wuerl estará presidiendo la misa anual para celebrar a las parejas que están conmemorando 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 o más años de matrimonio el domingo **16 de junio** a las 2:00 de la tarde, en la Basílica de la Inmaculada Concepción. Por favor llame a la Rectoría al 202-347-3215. Todas las parejas que desean participar tienen que estar inscritas el **12 de abril**.

CLASES PARA LA CONFIRMACION DE ADULTOS – Las personas adultas que deseen recibir el sacramento de la Confirmación el **12 de mayo**, tienen que recibir unas clases que se ofrecerán los domingos 14 de abril, 21 de abril, 28 de abril y 5 de mayo y tener la partida de bautismo vigente. Para más información llame a la rectoría y deje un mensaje para Fátima Aybar 202-347-3215 ext 543.

DÍA DE ORACIÓN Y SANACIÓN – Las mujeres que han tenido un aborto en sus vidas están invitadas a un día de Oración y Sanación el sábado **27 de abril**. Se va a sentir en un ambiente de paz y confianza para poder sanar de la vergüenza y otras emociones negativas que llegan después de un aborto. El lugar es confidencial se les dirá el día de su inscripción. Para más información puede llamar al Ministerio del Proyecto Raquel: 301-853-4565. Pregunte por Luz Menjivar. Recuerde que todos nuestros contactos son confidenciales ProyectoRaquel@adw.org.

Come Home For Easter
Lenten Communal Penance Service
Tuesday, March 26
12:10 p.m.

Rev. Msgr. W. Ronald Jameson, Homilist



We invite you to experience the love of Jesus Christ through the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** at our Lenten Communal Penance Service.

Experience the power of the sacrament, which restores us to God's grace and joins us with him in an intimate friendship.

Join parishioners and friends as we acknowledge our need for forgiveness from sin and reconciliation with God in preparation for the Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Priests from around the Archdiocese will be available for individual confessions in English, Spanish, Italian, German, Polish and American Sign.

Questions?

Contact the Rectory at 202-347-3215
CATHEDRAL OF SAINT MATTHEW THE APOSTLE
1725 Rhode Island Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036
www.stmatthewscathedral.org

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

What is Reconciliation and Why do we need it?

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (also called Confession) was instituted by Jesus Christ in His love and mercy for the Christian Faithful. The sacrament offers the Faithful forgiveness for all offenses committed against God. The Sacrament also reconciles us to the Church because the Church community is also wounded by one's sins.

When we sin, we hurt ourselves, other people and God. Through the sacrament of reconciliation, we acknowledge our sins before God and the Church. We express our sorrow, receive the forgiveness of Christ & the Church, make reparation for what we have done and resolve to do better in the future.

How Do I Make a Meaningful Confession?

Confession is not hard, but one should properly prepare themselves for the sacrament through an examination of conscience. Begin by placing yourself in the presence of God through prayer. Ask God, Our loving Father for healing and forgiveness. Carefully review your life since your last confession- what thoughts, actions, words have not conformed to God's love, to His Law or to the laws of the Church? Here are some questions based on the 10 Commandments to help you prepare:

- Do I pray to God every day? Have I thanked God for His gifts to me?
- Did I put my faith in danger through readings hostile to Catholic teachings or involvement in non-Catholic sects? Did I engage in superstitious practices: palm-reading or fortune-telling?
- Did I take the name of God in vain? Did I curse or take a false oath?
- Did I miss Mass on Sundays or holy days of obligation through my own fault? Am I attentive at Mass? Did I keep fast and abstinence on the prescribed days?
- Did I disobey my parents and lawful superiors in important matters?
- Did I hate or quarrel with anyone, or desire revenge? Did I refuse to forgive? Was I disrespectful?
- Did I get drunk? Did I take illicit drugs?
- Did I consent to, recommend, advise or actively take part in an abortion?
- Did I willfully look at pornography, entertain impure thoughts or engage in impure conversations? Did I use artificial means to prevent conception?
- Was I unfaithful to my spouse? Did I engage in sexual activity outside of marriage? Did I steal or damage another's property? Have I been honest and just in my business relations?
- Have I been responsive to the needs of the poor and respected the dignity of others?
- Did I tell lies? Did I sin by calumny, or detraction, of others? Did I judge others rashly in serious matters?
- Have I envied other people?

The Rite of Reconciliation: A Step by Step Guide

The sacrament can be face to face or anonymous with a screen between you and the priest. Choose the option which is the most comfortable for you.

1. The priest gives you a blessing or greeting. He may share a brief Scripture passage.
2. Make the Sign of the Cross and say: "Bless me father, for I have sinned. My last confession was..." (give the number of weeks, months, or years).
3. Confess all of your sins to the priest. The priest will help you to make a good confession. If you are unsure about how to confess or you feel uneasy, just ask him to help you. Answer his questions without hiding anything out of fear or shame. Nothing that you say to the priest will ever be revealed. Place your trust in God, a merciful Father who wants to forgive you.
4. Following your confession of sins, say: "I am sorry for these and all of my sins."
5. The priest assigns you a penance and offers advice to help you be a better Catholic.
6. Say an Act of Contrition, expressing your sorrow for your sins. There are several versions of the Act of Contrition but a common one is: "God, I am heartily sorry for having offended you, and I detest all my sins because I dread the loss of heaven and the pains of hell; but most of all because they offend you, my God, who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve with the help of your grace to confess my sins, do penance, and to amend my life. Amen."
7. The priest, acting in the person of Christ, then absolves you from your sins.
8. After you've left the Confessional or Reconciliation Room: Complete the penance you received.

This condensed guide for the Sacrament of Reconciliation is based on the Archdiocese's "The Light Is On For You," campaign. For more resources please see www.the-light-is-on.org.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

March 24: PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

Schedule of Masses with the distribution of palms:

5:30PM (Saturday, March 23) REV. MSGR. W. RONALD JAMESON (cantor)
7AM REV. MARK D. KNESTOUT
8:30AM REV. JOHN J. HURLEY (cantor)
9:45AM Blessing of Palms, DONALD CARDINAL WUERL
10AM DONALD CARDINAL WUERL (choir)
† **11:30AM** REV. MSGR. W. RONALD JAMESON (choir)
1PM MOST REV. FRANCISCO GONZÁLEZ S.F. (en Español)
5:30PM VERY REV. JAMES J. GREENFIELD, O.S.F.S. (contemporary choir)

March 25: MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK

7AM Mass
7:30AM Morning Prayer, St. Anthony Chapel
8AM Mass
11AM to NOON Confessions (4 confessors)
12:10PM Mass
1PM to 6PM *The Cathedral is closed & reopens at 6PM.*
† **7PM** CHRISM MASS & BLESSING OF OILS, DONALD CARDINAL WUERL, celebrant, concelebrated by the priests of the Archdiocese (choir)

March 26: TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

7AM Mass
7:30AM Morning Prayer, St. Anthony Chapel
8AM Mass
11AM *No confessions scheduled*
† **12:10PM** COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE
5:30PM Mass

March 27: WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

7AM Mass
7:30AM Morning Prayer, St. Anthony Chapel
8AM Mass
11AM to NOON Confessions (4 confessors)
12:10PM Mass
5:30PM Mass
6:15PM to 7:00PM Confessions (5 confessors)
7:30PM TENEBRÆ (choir)

March 28: HOLY THURSDAY

8AM *The Cathedral opens.*
9AM Morning Prayer, St. Anthony Chapel
11AM to NOON Confessions (4 confessors)
12:10PM MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER, REV. MSGR. W. RONALD JAMESON (contemporary choir)
† **5:30PM** SOLEMN MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER, DONALD CARDINAL WUERL (choir)
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10PM
9:45PM NIGHT PRAYER
The Cathedral closes at 10PM.

March 29: GOOD FRIDAY

8AM *The Cathedral opens.*
9AM Morning Prayer, St. Anthony Chapel
11AM to NOON Confessions (4 confessors)
NOON REFLECTIONS ON THE LORD'S PASSION, REV. THOMAS H. SMOLICH, S.J., President, Jesuit Conference of the United States.
† **1PM** LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION, DONALD CARDINAL WUERL (choir)
4PM LITURGIA DE LA PASIÓN DE N.S. JESUCRISTO, ADORACIÓN DE LA SANTA CRUZ, Y SANTA COMUNIÓN, MOST REV. FRANCISCO GONZÁLEZ, S.F.
7:30PM Stations of the Cross, REV. MSGR. W. RONALD JAMESON (in English)

March 30: HOLY SATURDAY

8AM *The Cathedral opens.*
9AM Morning Prayer, St. Anthony Chapel
11AM to NOON Confessions (4 confessors)
NOON to 7PM *No Masses during the day. The Cathedral closes at Noon & reopens at 7PM.*
† **8PM** EASTER VIGIL, DONALD CARDINAL WUERL (choir)

March 31: EASTER SUNDAY, THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

Schedule of Masses:

7AM REV. MARK D. KNESTOUT
8:30AM REV. JOHN J. HURLEY (cantor)
10AM DONALD CARDINAL WUERL (choir)
† **11:30AM** REV. MSGR. W. RONALD JAMESON (choir)
1PM REV. EVELIO MENJIVAR (en Español)
5:30PM VERY REV. JAMES J. GREENFIELD, O.S.F.S. (contemporary choir)

The Rectory is closed today and Easter Monday, April 1.

† *Interpreted for the deaf*

Our Dominican deacons present:
“DEATH, BE NOT PROUD”
An Easter Lecture Series

Saturday, *April 6*

The Eyewitness Accounts: The Resurrection in Scripture

Br. Albert Duggan, O.P.

What happened on Easter morning? The gospels have handed down several distinct eyewitness accounts of the Resurrection. While the details of each account differ, they all point to the same glorious reality of Christ's victory over sin and death. In this lecture, Br. Albert will lead an examination of the scriptural testimony about the Resurrection.

Saturday, *April 13*

Making Sense of the Resurrection with the Fathers of the Church

Br. Sebastian White, O.P.

Many modern intellectuals think it childish and unreasonable to have firm belief in the Resurrection of the Lord. The earliest theologians and scholars of the Church not only believed in the historical fact of the Resurrection but also reflected on the various meanings and effects of the Resurrection for every Christian. Br. Sebastian will lead us through some of the important lessons from these great thinkers.

Saturday, *April 20*

Seeing the Risen Christ: The Resurrection in Art

Br. Albert Duggan, O.P.

Even those who were not eyewitnesses have been able to see the risen Christ with the eyes of faith. The divine gift of faith can transform artistic skill into a truly theological enterprise. In this lecture, Br. Albert will explore how art and iconography have profoundly enriched our own view of the Resurrection.

Saturday, *April 27*

Rise Heart, Thy Lord Is Risen: The Resurrection in Poetry

Br. Sebastian White, O.P.

Many find poetry either hopelessly opaque or embarrassingly romantic and feel it is better left to English majors or wooing lovers. However, there are many beautiful, accessible, and theological poems. Br. Sebastian will discuss some of the English language's best examples of the Resurrection in verse.

All talks are from 10:30 to 11:45am in the North Conference Room.

(From inside: Go through side door by Cathedral organ and downstairs.

From outside: Enter through glass-and-iron door at driveway to right of Cathedral.)

All are welcome. Come any or all Saturdays. No RSVP necessary.

Contact: Heather Kinney, Director of Faith Formation – hkinney@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.

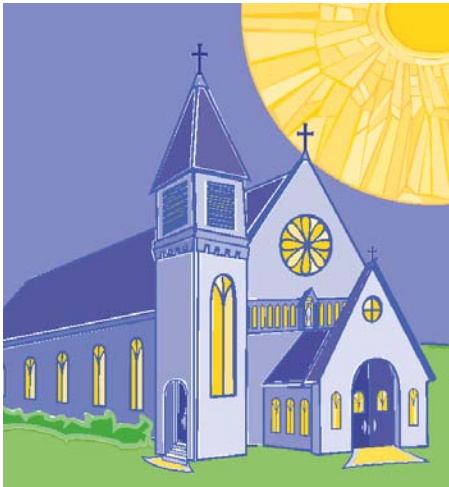
Sign up using the enrollment form on the other side or go online to www.faithdirect.net and use our parish code **DC284** to enroll today!

ENROLL TODAY!

How does Faith Direct work?

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

When do transactions take place?



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

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

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

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

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

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

E-GIVING ENROLLMENT FORM



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

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DC284

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Faith Direct • Attention: Enrollment • P.O. Box 7101 • Merrifield, VA 22116-7101 • 1-866-507-8757 {toll free} • www.faithdirect.net

“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.)

You may also choose to give to the following second and special collections.
The amount indicated will be debited in the month listed as part of the regular monthly transaction.

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.

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

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

Credit Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Print Name as Appears on Card: _____

Signature: _____

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