

TODAY'S READINGS

... and you yourself a sword will pierce. (Luke 2:35)

Did you know that this day has several celebrations associated with it, including one that involves a large rodent? In the Church, today is the feast of the Presentation, the feast of the Purification of Mary, and even Candlemas, since it's the day that churches traditionally bless their candles. Since the Middle Ages, it has also been observed as Groundhog Day. How did Groundhog Day get tied into this day of holy feasts?

First for Pagans and, later, Christians, February 2 held a special significance as representing the crossing of seasons: when people turned from the weariness of winter and rejoiced in the approaching spring. Over time, Christian folklore developed a theory that if an animal—a hedgehog or a badger, for instance—saw its shadow on the feast of the Presentation, spring would be six more weeks away. German immigrants brought this tradition to North America, where the groundhog became the weather prognosticator.

In a sense, today's Gospel reading reveals a similar shift for Mary. Still in the first days of motherhood, she hears Simeon prophesy that a sword will pierce her heart. At that moment, she crossed from the joy of new motherhood to a deeper awareness of the sacrifices that awaited her. We, too, cross over today: from the celebration of Christmas to the upcoming austerity of Good Friday, from rejoicing in Jesus' birth to joining him on the way to Calvary.

Now is the time to put away your warm memories of Christmas and begin looking toward the Lenten call to repentance. Just as God provided you with grace during the winter's festival, he will give you even more grace to embrace a season of self-denial.

"Lord, guide me as I turn from the manger to the cross. May this Lent be a time of renewal."

Taken from *The Word Among Us*, February 2014, Vol. 34, Number 2: Used with permission.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday 2 Mal 3:1-4 / Heb 2:14-18 / Lk 2:22-40

The Presentation of the Lord

Monday 3 2 Sm 15:13-14,30; 16:5-13 / Mk 5:1-20

St. Blaise and St. Ansgar

Tuesday 4 2 Sm 18:9-10,14,24-25, 30-19:3 / Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday 5 2 Sm 24:2,9-17 / Mk 6:1-6

St. Agatha

Thursday 6 1 Kgs 2:1-4,10-12 / Mk 6:7-13

St. Paul Miki and Companions

Friday 7 Sir 47:2-11 / Mk 6:14-29

Saturday 8 1 Kgs 3:4-13 / Mk 6:30-34

St. Jerome Emiliani & St. Joseph Bakhita

Sunday 9 Is 58:7-10 / 1 Cor 2:1-5 / Mt 5:13-16

LECTURAS DE HOY

El Señor le había revelado al anciano Simeón que él vería al Mesías antes de morir. Seguramente, Simeón rezaba diariamente queriendo saber cómo sería el Mesías y cómo lo reconocería. Sin duda estudiaba y meditaba en las profecías y promesas de la Torá, la Sagrada Escritura hebrea, tratando de entenderlas y leer las señales de los tiempos.

Cada día que rezaba y estudiaba la Palabra de Dios y cada vez que recordaba la promesa del Señor, su corazón estaba mejor preparado para encontrarse con el Mesías, más dócil y sensible al Espíritu Santo, y trataba de imaginarse cómo iba a reaccionar cuando en efecto viera al Niño. Por eso, cada día que Jesús no aparecía en el Templo, no era tiempo perdido ni una enorme decepción, porque Simeón iba creciendo en santidad!

Hablando del Mesías prometido, el profeta Malaquías exclamaba: "¿Quién podrá soportar el día de su venida?" (Malaquías 3, 3). La vida de Simeón personificaba la respuesta a esta pregunta: Podrá soportarlo el que se ponga en presencia de Dios día a día y reafirme que el Señor es fiel y bondadoso; el que cumpla su palabra y sea justo en todo lo que hace. Quien haga esto será capaz de soportar la venida del Señor; el que tenga ojos para ver y oídos para oír; el que sea capaz de proclamar al mundo quién es Cristo Jesús.

Entonces, ¿crees tú que cada momento que rezas es fructífero? Lo es, porque cada vez que entras en la presencia del Señor, él moldea tu corazón e ilumina tu mente, sea que te des cuenta o no. Cada día, Jesús te prepara para recibirle cuando él venga de nuevo. Así que, acércate a su trono de la gracia hoy mismo en tu oración; dile que quieres recibir su gracia y su verdad. Entonces, así como Simeón, no sólo podrás soportar el día de la llegada de Jesús, sino que te regocijarás en él.

"Padre eterno, te amo con todo mi corazón y mi alma. Hoy vengo a tu presencia lleno de gratitud por haberme recibido como hijo tuyo y me alegro de que estés moldeando mi corazón ahora mismo."

Escogida con el permiso de *La Palabra Entre Nosotros*, Vol. 33, Número 3: febrero 2014.

First Friday Exposition and Adoration February 7 12:45 to 5pm

*All are invited to
visit our Lord
in the Blessed
Sacrament.*

NEWS AND NOTES

CONGRATULATIONS AND PRAYERS – Kyle Ratuiste, a seminarian assigned to St. Matthew's, will be ordained a Transitional Deacon in the Crypt Church of the National Shrine on Saturday, **February 15** at 9:30am by the Most Rev. Blase Cupich, Bishop of Spokane. Hailing from the Diocese of Spokane, WA, Kyle is a third-year theologian at Theological College.



At St. Matthew's, he has been involved in Hispanic RCIA, assisting at the 1pm Spanish Mass, and preparation of couples for marriage. Kyle graduated from Gonzaga University and Bishop White Seminary in Spokane with degrees in philosophy and biochemistry. He has organized a summer vocations camp for his diocese, tutored chemistry at Archbishop Carroll High School, and worked at Georgetown University Hospital.

Kyle has greatly appreciated his time at the Cathedral. He looks forward to taking in more of the parish experience and anticipates returning to St. Matthew's during his fourth year of theology. He will serve as deacon and preach for the first time at the 8:30am Mass on Sunday, **February 16**. All are welcome! Please keep Kyle and all our seminarians in your prayers.

HOSPITALITY IN THE NEW YEAR – The Hospitality Committee needs your help before they can host any Hospitality Sundays this year! Volunteers who can stay after Mass are needed to help with these events. Contact them at stmatthospitality@gmail.com, letting them know which Mass you generally attend and if you have any ideas or suggestions for us. We look forward to hearing from you!

ALWAYS GOD'S CHILDREN – Always God's Children, the Cathedral parish's gay and lesbian ministry, will meet Sunday, **February 9** in the West Conference Room at 3:30pm.

2013 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS – In an effort to go "green", Year-End-Contribution Statements will be prepared only upon request. To receive a summary of your 2013 contributions, contact Gloria Harrington at gharrington@stmatthewscathedral.org or 202-347-3215 x 517.

AL-ANON – Friends and relatives of those with alcohol or drug addictions are invited to the Circle of Hope Alanon meetings on Thursdays at 1:15pm in the West Conference Room (enter via the alley).

PRESIDENTS' DAY SCHEDULE – Monday, **February 17** is Presidents' Day, a Federal holiday. The Cathedral will open at 7:30am and close at 1pm. Masses will be celebrated at 8am and 12:10pm. There will be no Confessions, and the Rectory offices will be closed. **Note that our monthly Eucharistic Holy Hour, normally held on the third Monday of the month, is rescheduled to Monday, February 24.**

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Today is the **Feast of the Presentation of the Lord**, a joyful event told in the second chapter of the Gospel of Luke. "Led by the Spirit, Simeon and Anna came to the temple, recognized Christ as their Lord, and proclaimed him with joy." On this feast celebrating Christ, the light to the nations, enough candles are blessed to last the whole year. At St. Matthew's, candles will be blessed at the 8:30am Mass. Let us be like Simeon and Anna, recognizing Christ's presence and carrying His light to every corner of our lives!

February 2 also is World Day for Consecrated Life. Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.

PARISH CALENDAR

February 2 – 9

SUNDAY 2—The Presentation of the Lord.

Candles are blessed at the 8:30am Mass. A second collection for Cathedral maintenance is taken at all Masses. Las clases de Catequesis, Catecumenado y Catequesis Familiar continúan a las 11:00 de la mañana.

MONDAY 3—A blessing of throats takes place after all Masses.

The Parish Council Meets at 6:45pm in the East Conference Room.

TUESDAY 4—El Grupo de oración se reúne a las 7:00 de la tarde en el salón de conferencias del Oeste.

WEDNESDAY 5—Breaking Open the Word meets at 7pm in the West Conference Room.

THURSDAY 6—Legión de María se reunirá a las 6:30 de la tarde en el salón de conferencias del Este.

FRIDAY 7—First Friday Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held after the 12:10pm Mass till 5pm.

SUNDAY 9—Las clases de Catequesis, Catecumenado y Catequesis Familiar continúan a las 11:00 de la mañana. The Cathedral Club meets at 1pm in the West Conference Room.

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

OUTREACH

ADULT ENGLISH CLASSES –

When? **January 14 to April 10, 2014**
(thirteen weeks), Tuesday, Wednesday
and Thursday, 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Where? St. Matthew's Education Center

How much? \$40

Registration continues on class nights through **February 4**, from 6 to 8pm at St. Matthew's Education Center (1726 N Street, NW). At registration, each student is assessed to determine the appropriate class level in which he/she will be placed. Language instruction is provided at Level 1 (Beginner) through Level 5 (Advanced). For more information on registration and volunteer opportunities, visit <http://www.stmatthewscathedral.org/outreach/esl> or contact Krista Cox at stmattsesl@gmail.com.

FAITH FORMATION

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, **February 12**. For more information, contact Heather Kinney at hkinney@stmatthewscathedral.org.

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 (**May 1, 8, 15 & 22**) and one Saturday (**May 17**). The celebration of adult Confirmation in 2014 will occur at a special Mass on Ascension Sunday, **June 1**. Registration forms are available in the Cathedral rectory and on the parish website beginning this weekend. The deadline to register is Friday, **April 4**. Contact: Heather Kinney, Director of Faith Formation hkinney@stmatthewscathedral.org.

MUSIC

CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT – Ensemble 42, a DC-based wind-strings chamber music ensemble, will perform Johannes Brahms' youthful Serenade No. 1 on Sunday, **March 2** at 7pm, following the 5:30pm Mass. The piece, which Brahms later rearranged for a larger orchestra, bursts with the energy and passion of the young Brahms,



Women of the Schola, December 2013

while hinting at the reflective depth of his later years.

Ensemble 42 also has performed the Schubert Octet and the Beethoven Septet, and recorded both pieces. The 45-minute concert is free and open to the public.

YOUNG ADULTS

C†YA for a Discussion: Questions on Faith – Thursday, February 6 – 7 to 8:30pm – Uptown Tap House – Back Room (3412 Connecticut Avenue NW / Cleveland Park) – Join us as we seek answers to the fundamental question, “Who is God?”. Br. Gabriel will guide our discussion and answer our questions on Christ, Born of the Virgin. All are welcome to challenge, discuss, or just listen and enjoy a drink! Contact Mike at m.owens810@gmail.com with questions.

Wine and Wisdom – Monday, February 10 – 7 to 8:30pm – North Conference Room – All young women are invited to attend our faith sharing group for a discussion on this month's topic, the Book of Esther (no advance reading required). For questions or to RSVP, email wineandwisdom.stmatthews@gmail.com.

Volunteering at the Northwest Center – Tuesday, February 11 – 6 to 8pm – Northwest Center (2702 Ontario Road NW / Columbia Heights) – The Center provides support and comprehensive care that enables women to deliver and raise healthy babies. Each month, C†YA assists with odd jobs like sorting donations, cleaning, or doing yard work. Come once or come every month! Contact Natalie Committee at natalie.committee@gmail.com for more information and to sign up.

C†YA at Mass – Weekly on Sundays – 5:30pm – Cathedral (meet in section near front by the choir) – Don't sit alone at Mass! Instead, celebrate with other young adult parishioners. Join us in the first few rows on the right of the nave, in front of the pulpit near the choir – look for the “reserved” signs on the pews. Contact Lara lara.ericson@gmail.com for more information.

Stay up to date with all of our events by checking out our website at www.stmatthewscathedral.org/cya, and joining our listserv. To learn more, email stmattsyam@gmail.com.

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Domingo 2 Mal 3:1-4 / Heb 2:14-18 / Lc 2:22-40
La Presentación del Señor

Lunes 3 2 Sam 15:13-14,30; 16:5-13 / Mc 5:1-20
San Blas

Martes 4 2 Sam 18:9-10,14,24-25,30—19:3 / Mc 5:21-43

Miércoles 5 2 Sam 24:2,9-17 / Mc 6:1-6
Santa Águeda

Jueves 6 1 Re 2:1-4,10-12 / Mc 6:7-13
San Pablo Miki y compañeros

Viernes 7 Si 47:1-11 / Mc 6:14-29

Sábado 8 1 Re 3:4-13 / Mc 6:30-34
San Jerónimo Emiliano

Domingo 9 Is 58:7-10 / 1 Cor 2:1-5 / Mt 5:13-16

NOTICIAS DE LA PARROQUIA

FELICITACIONES Y ORACIONES – Kyle

Ratuiste, un seminarista que fue asignado a San Mateo, será ordenado a diácono de transición en una de las Criptas de la Basílica de la Inmaculada Concepción el sábado, **15 de febrero** a las 9:30 de la mañana por el Obispo Blase Cupich de Spokane. Él vino de la Diócesis de Spokane, WA; Kyle está estudiando su tercer año de teología en la Universidad Teológica. Aquí en la Catedral él ha estado envuelto especialmente con el programa RICA, ayudando en la misa de español y preparando a parejas para el matrimonio. Kyle se graduó de la universidad de Gonzaga y el Seminario de Bishop White en Spokane, con maestrías de filosofía y bioquímica. Entre sus ministerios anteriores, él organizó un campamento de verano de vocaciones para su diócesis, enseña química en la escuela secundaria de Arzobispo Carroll e hizo trabajo de capellanía en el Hospital de la Universidad de Georgetown.

Kyle ha disfrutado su tiempo aquí en la Catedral. Él espera participar más con su tiempo en la Catedral durante su cuarto año de teología. Kyle servirá como diácono, y predicará por primera vez en la misa de 8:30 de la mañana en inglés el domingo **16 de febrero**. Todos están invitados. Por favor ténganlo presente en sus oraciones a él y a todos los seminaristas.

PRIMER VIERNES – Primer viernes de exposición y adoración del Santísimo Sacramento se celebrará después de la misa 12:10 del mediodía hasta 5:00 de la tarde este viernes **7 de febrero** en la Capilla del Santísimo Sacramento. Todos son bienvenidos a venir y adorar a nuestro Señor.



CLASES DE INGLÉS PARA ADULTOS –

¿Cuándo? 14 de enero al 10 de abril, del 2014

(trece semanas), los martes, miércoles y jueves de 6:30 a 8:30 de la tarde

¿Dónde? St. Matthew's Education Center (Centro de Educación de San Mateo)

¿Cuánto? \$40

Las inscripciones continúan hasta el **4 de febrero**

entre las 6:00 y las 8:00 de la tarde, en el St.

Matthew's Education Center (1726 N Street, NW).

Durante las matriculas, cada estudiante recibirá un breve examen para determinar cuál es el nivel de

clases más apropiado para el/ella. Los estudiantes tendrán que matricularse en persona. Las clases de

inglés serán impartidas desde el Nivel 1

(principiante) hasta el Nivel 5 (avanzado).

Para más información sobre las inscripciones, visite:

<http://www.stmatthewscathedral.org/outreach/clases-de-ingles> o póngase en contacto con Krista Cox

al stmattsesl@gmail.com.

DONACIONES DE SANGRE PARA EL HOSPITAL DE NIÑOS (CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL) – San Mateo será el

anfitrión de una campaña de donación de sangre el

domingo, **9 de febrero**, de 9:00 de la mañana a 2:00

de la tarde para ayudar a los pacientes pediátricos

del Hospital de Niños. El hospital tendrá un van estacionado frente a la Catedral durante esas horas.

¿Por qué es importante donar? Los niños en el

hospital requieren sangre fresca o diferentes clases

de glóbulos rojos especiales. Glóbulos rojos,

plaquetas y plasma están en constante demanda para

las víctimas de accidentes, tratamientos contra el cáncer, enfermedades de la sangre y muchas clases

de cirugía.

¿Quién puede donar? Cualquier persona en buen

estado de salud entre las edades de 17 y 70 años y

que pese más de 110 libras puede donar sangre. Una

lista completa de los criterios médicos del hospital

está disponible en (inglés):

<http://ChildrensNational.org/DonateBlood>.

¿Cuánto tiempo tarda la donación? El proceso de

donación de sangre entera tarda aproximadamente

30 a 45 minutos, una donación de plaquetas tarda

aproximadamente una a dos horas. Si desea donar

sangre, por favor tome en cuenta que la misa en

español empieza a la 1 de la tarde.

UNCIÓN DE LOS ENFERMOS – Se celebrará una misa

de Unción de los Enfermos en la Catedral el **15 de**

febrero a las 12:10 del mediodía. La registración

previa es requerida para nosotros asistirle mejor.

Hoy en el boletín encontrara el formulario para

inscribirse.

MASS INTENTIONS

February 2 – 9

To arrange a Mass intention, speak to our receptionist in the Rectory. There is no fee but an offering is customary.

Sunday, February 2

7am – Alma Rice (living)
8:30am – Rose Bucher
10am – Wadih Maalouf
11:30am – Gloria McElroy
Clabby
1pm – Linda Opont (living)
5:30pm – Philip Tolaro

Monday, February 3

7am – Martin “Matt” Glynn
8am – Florentine Bâoumar
12:10pm – Moises Lopez
5:30pm – Zelma Morrison

Tuesday, February 4

7am – Ester L. Lara
8am – Mary M. Browne
12:10pm – Jerry Urbick
5:30pm – Rosemary Gaszon

Wednesday, February 5

7am – Terry Work (living)
8am – Pedro de Jesús
12:10pm – Leona Carlisle
5:30pm – Eugene M. Brady
(living)

Thursday, February 6

8am – Peter Townley
12:10pm – Lucita Navarro
Pagaran

Friday, February 7

7am – Ricardina Rios
8am – Francis & Olivia Mendez
12:10pm – Chelo Roxas
Javellina
5:30pm – Jean Fallon Brown

Saturday, February 8

12:10pm – Josiane Kwaou
5:30pm – Susan McNamara

Sunday, February 9

8:30am – Anna Charnick
10am – Dr. Perry Inhofe
11:30am – Ricardina Rios
1pm – Porfirio Gonzalez
5:30pm – All Parishioners

AROUND THE AREA

JOHN CARROLL SOCIETY DAY OF RECOLLECTION – On **February 22** from 9am to 5pm, Fr. James J. Greenfield, OSFS, will lead the John Carroll Society's Pre-Lenten Day of Recollection at the Washington Retreat House (4000 Harewood Rd NE). An overnight option is available beginning at 6pm on February 21. For more information or to register, please visit www.johncarrollsociety.org or call 301-654-4399.

LIVE JESUS 2014 – This Lent, prepare your heart for the celebration of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ at Easter by attending the 11th annual *Live Jesus*—a morning of reflection, fellowship, and prayer with the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales. This year's program is “Francis and Francis – Living the Gospel Today – The Salesian Spirit of the Jesuit Pope.” A featured speaker will be Father Kevin Nadolski, OSFS, who spoke in October at St. Matthew's on the Holy Spirit. *Live Jesus* will be held from 8am to 12:45pm on Saturday, **March 15** at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Vienna, VA. Find further details and register at www.oblates.org.

LENTEN SILENT RETREAT FOR WOMEN – *Peace, the Promised Gift – Accepted and Shared* is the theme of a silent weekend retreat for women to be held **March 14-16** at Dominican Retreat in McLean, VA. The retreat will be directed by Franciscan Father Michael Heine, with a focus on allowing God's Peace to speak in our hearts, claiming it for ourselves and implementing its practice in our lives. For details and to register, call the Retreat at 703-356-4243 or visit www.dominicanretreat.org.

MORNING PRAYER

Morning Prayer is prayed in the St. Anthony Chapel on Wednesdays and Thursdays after the 7am Mass. Feel free to join this small group – you can look on with one of us to start, or bring your breviary or smartphone if you are familiar with praying the Divine Office. If you are not ready to join in the prayer, you are most welcome to be present in silent prayer. Questions? Call 202-587-5143.

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.

BAPTISM

Parents who wish to have their child baptized at the Cathedral should contact the Baptismal Coordinator at 202-347-3215 x555 or baptism@stmatthewscathedral.org. Parents are encouraged to contact us **at least six (6) months in advance** of a desired baptismal date, and may ask for the priest of their choice to perform the Baptism. Early contact allows parents to be scheduled for the necessary sacramental formation session and godparents to obtain letters from their parish pastor.

If you are a registered parishioner at St. Matthew's and need a letter of good standing in order to be a godparent for a baptism to be celebrated at another parish, call the Rectory at 202-347-3215 to ask about obtaining a letter.



Blood Drive

Children's National Medical Center, locally referred to as Children's Hospital, is the only exclusive provider of pediatric care in the Washington, Metropolitan area.

Many children in the hospital require fresh blood or special rare types of red blood cells. Red blood cells, platelets, and plasma are in constant demand for victims of accidents, cancer treatments, blood diseases, and many types of surgery.

Please take a few minutes from your busy schedule and donate lifesaving blood for the patients at Children's National. Your blood donation brings hope during the holidays.

St Matthew's Cathedral, DC
1725 Rhode Island Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20036

Date: Sunday, February 9, 2014
Time: 09:00am to 2:00pm

To schedule an appointment online:
<https://www.cnmcbloodonor.com/>
or call
(202) 476-5437



For more information about the Bloodmobile, visit:
www.childrensnational.org/donateblood.

Donate blood for all the little reasons!

The purpose of life is not to be happy – but to matter, to be productive, to be useful, to have it make some difference that you have lived at all.- Leo Rosten



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en medio de las
dificultades de la vida
diaria.

www.tovpil.org

Lugar:

Catedral de San Mateo Apóstol
1725 Rhode Island Avenue NW,
Washington DC 20036

Salón de Conferencias del Oeste (donde
se reúne el Grupo de Oración)

Día y hora:

Martes de 7.30 a 9.30 de la noche

Inicio:

11 de febrero

Cierre de Inscripción:

25 de febrero

Inscripción:

Nannie Espinoza, 571-236-6904
ngespinoza@aol.com, o llama a
Fátima Aybar, 202-347-3215 x 543

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

Of the seven sacraments, the Church classifies two of them as the sacraments of healing: Reconciliation (often known as Confession) and Anointing the Sick. Each of them involves healing the human person; one for our spiritual health and the other for our physical well-being. How these sacraments have been practiced in the life of the Church has differed over time. This brief summary is about the anointing of the sick. Historically, oil was widely used in the ancient world for a variety of life purposes: lighting, cooking, athletic preparation, special marking and especially healing wounds. So, it is not surprising that the New Testament includes reference to the use of oil, once in Mark's gospel and another in a letter of the apostle, James.

In the life of the early church, the common use of oil for healing was given a special blessing by the bishop to call upon God's power for the benefit of the sick. During the early centuries, the application of the blessed oil could be done by any of the baptized faithful, since it was primarily for the healing of physical defects. In later centuries, it began to be associated with the dying to heal the soul before death, especially as it was done concurrent with one's last confession. During these later centuries, this concurrent use of both sacraments led to limiting the sacramental anointing to those who were ordained, in particular, the priest.

All sacraments are for the benefit of the individual, but we are all members of the Body of Christ. So, when one member of the body is afflicted, so is the whole body. And as the physical body makes an effort to assist healing the afflicted part, so also the spiritual body is involved in healing the injured member. To reflect this theology, the Church encourages this sacrament to be administered as much as possible in a public way, even if administered in a hospital or nursing home. So, the sacramental ritual provides for celebrating the anointing as part of a community liturgy, such as Mass, much as we do for baptisms, first communions, and the other sacraments.

Moreover, the renewed rite now is more inclusive of who can be anointed regardless of age. The anointing can be administered to those preparing for serious surgery, the seriously ill, those suffering serious mental illness, those weakened by old age and others as judged prudent by the pastor (or chaplain).

This sacrament recognizes that the anointing is one aspect of pastoral care for the sick. Beyond the sacramental anointing, other visits to the sick are encouraged where scripture and holy communion can be provided to the sick and impaired. The communal connection is symbolized by the pastoral minister being dismissed from the Sunday or other Mass, taking the scripture of the day and a consecrated host from the Mass to those sick or otherwise unable to be at Mass.

At St. Matthew's, our communal celebration of the sacrament of anointing is normally scheduled for October and February; proximate to the feasts of St. Luke and Our Lady of Lourdes who are particularly associated with the sick. It is celebrated in bi-lingual form to enable our Hispanic parishioners to participate in this special semi-annual sacramental celebration. **See the bulletin for details about the anointing liturgy on Saturday, February 15 at 12:10pm.**

"If anyone of you is ill, he should send for the elders of the church, and they must anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord and pray over him." (James 5: 14)

Deacon Bart Merella

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick
Participation Form

“If anyone of you is ill, he should send for the elders of the church and they must anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord and pray over him.” (James 4: 14)

The sacrament will be celebrated in communal form at a special bilingual Mass on Saturday, February 15 at 12:10pm.

For those parishioners who would like to receive this sacrament or know a parishioner(s) who may wish to be contacted about receiving the sacrament, please complete this information form. If further information is needed, contact the rectory during office hours at 202-347-3215.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ . _____ . _____

I encourage all parishioners to join in this communal celebration of this sacrament and encourage as many as possible to receive the special sacramental anointing.

Rev. Msgr. W. Ronald Jameson
Rector



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.

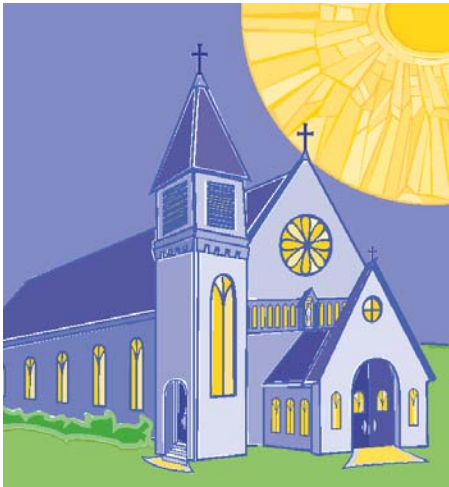
Sign up using the enrollment form on the other side or go online to www.faithdirect.net and use our parish code **DC284** to enroll today!

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

FOR ONLINE ENROLLMENT
USE CHURCH CODE:

DC284

C

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.